

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6223

ANSWERED ON:04.05.2010

ESTIMATION OF BPL FAMILIES

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**Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:**

(a) whether allocation of foodgrains under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is being made to States for distribution to Below Poverty Line (BPL) and Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families as per population estimation submitted by the Registrar General of India on 1st March, 2000;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government has since rejected the request of the States including Bihar to increase the number of BPL/AAY families in accordance with the figures provided by the States;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(e) whether some States continue to supply foodgrains through TPDS to all the families identified by them;

(f) if so, the details thereof alongwith the names of such States and the quantum of foodgrains supplied by them to such families;

(g) whether such States have stopped allocated to FPS due to cash crunch thereby affecting distribution of foodgrains to the poor; and

(h) if so, the remedial steps taken by the Union Government in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a) to (f): For allocations of foodgrains to States and Union Territories (UTs) under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), the Department of Food & Public Distribution uses the number of Below Poverty Line (BPL) families based on 1993-94 poverty estimates of Planning Commission and population estimates of the Registrar General of India as on 1st March 2000.

Some State Governments, including the Government of Bihar, have requested for increase in number of BPL families for TPDS allocations. The details are given in Annex I.

The allocations of foodgrains to 6.52 crore accepted number of BPL families, including 2.43 crore AAY families are made @ 35 kg per family per month. These norms are uniformly applicable to all States/UTs. Hence, the requests from the State Governments for increase in number of BPL families and allocation of foodgrains could not be accepted.

The Central Government is responsible for procurement, storage, transportation and bulk allocation of foodgrains to the States/UTs. While the responsibility of allocation of foodgrains within State/UT, identification of eligible BPL & AAY families based on estimates of Planning Commission and issuance of ration cards to them, and supervision of distribution of allocated foodgrains to eligible ration card holders through the fair price shops rest with the State / UT Governments.

(g) & (h): No such report has been received by the Government.