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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5041 ANSWERED ON:27.04.2010 DISTRIBUTION OF COARSE GRAINS Mahato Shri Narahari

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to distribute coarse grains alongwith rice and wheat through the Public Distribution System;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the quantity of rice and wheat allocated and distributed to every Below Poverty Line family presently; and
- (d) the details of monthly entitlement of foodgrains for each State from the Central Pool, State-wise?

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 (d): Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is implemented jointly by Government of India and State/Union Territory (UT) Governments with sharing of responsibilities in this regard. The responsibilities for allocation of foodgrains within State/UT, identification of eligible Below Poverty Line (BPL) families based on estimates of Planning Commission, issuance of ration cards to them and distribution of allocated foodgrains to eligible ration card holders through fair price shops and supervision of the functioning of Fair Price Shops, etc., rest with the State/UT Governments.

In addition to allocations of rice and wheat to States/UTs under TPDS, Government of India also allocates coarsegrains such as Jowar, Bajra, Maize and Ragi to States/UTs under TPDS considering the local food preference, requests of the State Governments and availability of stocks in the Central Pool.

Government makes allocations of foodgrains to 6.52 crore accepted number of Below Poverty Line (BPL) families, which includes 2.43 crore Antyodaya Anna Yojana families, as per 1993-94 poverty estimates of Planning Commission and population estimates of Registrar General of India as on 01.03.2000, @ 35 kg per family per month. State-wise allocation of foodgrains for BPL (including AAY) families is at Annex-I.