

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:674
ANSWERED ON:24.11.2009
IMPROVEMENT IN PDS
Pakkirappa Shri S.

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

- (a) whether the Government has made any assessment of the price of pulses and food grains in the open market and under the Public Distribution System (PDS) in the last one year;
- (b) if so, whether the Government is considering any measures to improve the quality of the PDS in the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether more items are likely to be sold through the PDS; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) The Prices of Pulses and foodgrains are monitored by the Government. Prices of foodgrains (rice and wheat) under the PDS and in the open market (retail prices at Delhi centre) are indicated below:

(Rs. Per kg)

Commodity	APL	BPL	AAY	Retail Price	Retail price
at Delhi	at Delhi				
as on	as on				
19.11.2009	19.11.2008				

Rice	8.30	5.65	3.00	22.00	22.00
Wheat	6.10	4.15	2.00	15.00	13.00

CIP is unchanged since 2002.

Among the foodgrains rice and wheat are distributed through PDS. Pulses are distributed to the State Governments under the PDS @ Rs.10 per kg subsidy scheme.

(b) and (c). The Price control measures through allocations of food grains under TPDS to States/UTs and strengthening of the TPDS are given in Annexure 1.

(d) and (e). At present, Central Government makes available wheat, rice, coarse grains and Kerosene under TPDS to the State/UT Governments for distribution through FPS. Pulses are distributed to the State Governments under the PDS @ Rs.10 per kg subsidy scheme. There is no proposal to distribute other items through TPDS. However, in view of the rise in prices of essential commodities witnessed during the recent past, Government has allocated imported edible oils to State/UT Governments. States are free to distribute the oil through whatever outlets they decide on.