

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:389

ANSWERED ON:07.07.2009

CASH FOR FOOD SCHEME

Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji; Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba; Majhi Shri Pradeep Kumar; Patasani Dr. (Prof.) Prasanna Kumar; Patel Shri Kishanbhai Vestabhai

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

(a) whether the Planning Commission has recommended discontinuation of the present Public Distribution Scheme and introduce in its place a Cash for Food Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the benefits likely to accrue therefrom; and

(c) the manner in which the Government proposes to ensure that the benefits/cash provided under the said scheme reaches the intended beneficiaries?

**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),(b)&(c): Planning Commission has not recommended discontinuation of the present Targeted Public Distribution System and introduction in its place of a cash for food scheme. However, State Governments of Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Delhi submitted proposals for approval to direct disbursement of food subsidy in cash to BPL families in lieu of foodgrains under TPDS on a pilot basis in five districts i.e. Lakhimpur Kheri and Hardoi in Uttar Pradesh, Panchkula and Jhajjar in Haryana and Central District in Delhi. Based on those proposals, a draft scheme has been prepared to test feasibility of the alternative mode of transfer of food subsidy to BPL/AAY beneficiaries under TPDS. The draft scheme is under examination.