

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1401
ANSWERED ON:03.08.2010
DISTRIBUTION OF FOODGRAINS
Mahato Shri Narahari; Tirkey Shri Manohar

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

- (a) whether the Planning Commission has suggested alternate ways to distribute/ sell foodgrains in place of the Public Distribution System;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

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 (c): No proposal suggesting alternate ways to sell foodgrains in place of the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) has been received from Planning Commission. However, the State Governments of Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Govt. of NCT of Delhi submitted proposals for direct disbursement of food subsidy in cash to Below Poverty Line (BPL)/Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families on pilot basis in five districts, namely, Lakhimpur Kheri and Hardoi in Uttar Pradesh, Panchkula and Jhajjar in Haryana and Central District in Delhi, instead of distribution of foodgrains to them under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS). Based on those proposals, a draft scheme has been prepared to test the feasibility of this alternative mode of transfer of food subsidy to BPL/AAY families under TPDS. The draft scheme has been referred to Ministry of Finance (Department of Expenditure) for approval of the Committee on Non-Plan Expenditure.