

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:87
ANSWERED ON:09.11.2010
NUTRITIOUS FOOD UNDER PDS
Punia Shri P.L.

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to include new nutritious food items under the Public Distribution System (PDS); and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the said nutritious food items are likely to be included?

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 (b): With a view to specifically target poor sections of society for distribution of subsidized foodgrains (rice, wheat & coarse grains) and sugar, Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) was launched in June 1997. Foodgrains are allocated by the Government of India under TPDS to 6.52 crore accepted number of Below Poverty Line (BPL) families, which includes 2.43 crore Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families @ 35 kg per family per month. Depending upon the availability of foodgrains in the central pool and past offtake, the allocations are also made to Above Poverty Line (APL) families. At present, allocation to APL families ranges between 15 kg and 35 kg per family per month in different States. There is no proposal to include new nutritious food items under the TPDS.