

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1247

ANSWERED ON:16.11.2010

ALLOCATION OF FOODGRAINS

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

- (a) the number of Below Poverty Line (BPL) card holders in the country, State-wise;
- (b) the allocation made under PDS/ TPDS/AAY during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (c) whether the said allocation is in accordance with the requirement/BPL list of the States;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the allocation of some States has been reduced in the recent past;
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken for restoration of the quota;
- (g) whether some States failed to lift their quota in the recent past;
- (h) if so, the details thereof and the corrective steps taken in this regard; and
- (i) the steps taken for adequate and timely supply of foodgrains to the States?

Answer

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

(a) to (i): State-wise details of number of Below Poverty Line (BPL) and Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) ration cards issued by the States/UTs and accepted number of families under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) are at Annex 1.

Allocations of foodgrains are made @ 35 kg. per family per month for all 6.52 crore BPL families including 2.43 crore AAY families accepted for allocation under TPDS on the basis of 1993-94 poverty estimates of the Planning Commission and March 2000 population estimates of the Registrar General of India or the number of families actually identified and ration cards issued to them by State/UT Governments, whichever is less.

The allocation of foodgrains for Above Poverty Line (APL) category are made depending upon the availability of foodgrains in the Central Pool and past offtake. Keeping in view then lower stocks of foodgrains, allocations of wheat and rice for APL category was rationalized with effect from June 2006 and April 2007 for wheat and rice respectively by linking them to offtake of previous three years. Further, allocation of rice for APL category for 2008-09 was made on the basis of its average offtake during 2006-07 and 2007-08. However, taking into consideration the availability of stocks of foodgrains in the Central Pool, additional allocations of foodgrains have been made to States/UTs under APL category during 2009-10 and 2010-11. Presently, these allocations of foodgrains range between 15 kg and 35 kg per family per month in different States/UTs.

Requests have been received from time to time from different States/UTs for additional allocation of foodgrains. Considering these requests and availability of stocks in the Central Pool, Government has made the following additional allocations to States/UTs:

- i. 36.08 lakh tons of foodgrains in January 2010 at MSP based/derived prices for distribution to all AAY/BPL/ APL families for two months.
- ii. 30.66 lakh tons of foodgrains in May 2010 for all accepted number of BPL/AAY/APL families @ Rs.8.45 per kg for wheat and Rs.11.85 per kg for rice.
- iii. 27.41 lakh tons of foodgrains on 2nd August 2010 @ 4.57 lakh tons per month for six months from August 2010 to 22 States/UTs to ensure 15kg foodgrains per family per month in all States/UTs.
- iv. 3.65 lakh tons of foodgrains on 3rd August, 2010 to ensure 35 kg of foodgrains in NE States and hilly States for six months from August, 2010.

v. 25.00 lakh tons of foodgrains for BPL families at BPL prices to all States/UTs in September, 2010 for distribution for six months.

State-wise and category-wise details of the allocations and offtake of foodgrains under TPDS during 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10 and the current year are at Annex 2 to 6.

Various reasons may contribute to low offtake by the State Governments such as resource crunch faced by State Government, non-availability of railway rakes for movement, administrative or infrastructure problems created by natural calamities, etc.

The State Governments are allowed a validity period of 50 days for lifting of foodgrains allocated under TPDS. Requests for extension of validity period are considered as and when received.

Allocation of Annual requirement of foodgrains are made to all States/UTs well in advance at the beginning of the year. States are allowed to lift foodgrains one month in advance of the allocation month as well as advance stocking of foodgrains for more than a month.