

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3315

ANSWERED ON:30.11.2010

HOME DELIVERY UNDER PDS

Nagorao Shri Dudhgaonkar Ganeshrao; Sukur Shri Jadhav Baliram

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to adopt any scheme to supply foodgrains to the beneficiaries of Public Distribution System directly at their homes in the country to curb the black-marketing; and

(b) if so, the details and the current status thereof?

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): Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is operated under the joint responsibility of Central Government and State/Union Territory (UT) Governments. The Central Government is responsible for procurement, allocation and transportation of foodgrains upto the designated depots of the Food Corporation of India. The operational responsibilities for lifting and distributing the allocated foodgrains within the States/UTs, identification of eligible Below Poverty Line (BPL) families, issuance of ration cards to them and supervision over distribution of allocated foodgrains to eligible card holders through the Fair Price Shops (FPSs) are that of the State/UT Governments.

Public Distribution System (Control) Order 2001 stipulates that State Governments shall issue order under Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 for regulating the sale and distribution of the essential commodities and also issue licenses to the Fair Price Shop owners.

Under the guidelines on the subject, State Governments should assess the coverage of areas by the network of Fair Price Shops. It is also to be ensured that no consumer/card holder has to travel more than 3 kms to reach the Fair Price Shop. In areas which cannot be covered by Static Fair Price Shops, mobile vans may be introduced to cover the consumers residing in hilly, remote, far-flung, desert, tribal and inaccessible areas.

There is no proposal under consideration of the Government to supply PDS grains to the beneficiaries at their homes.