

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4405

ANSWERED ON:04.08.2009

EXPANSION OF AAY

Agarwal Shri Jai Prakash;Ram Shri Purnmasi;Reddy Shri Anantha Venkatarami;Singh Shri Sushil Kumar

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to further expand the Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) Scheme;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the targeted and actual number of beneficiaries under the scheme since its inception, State-wise;
- (c) the allocation and offtake of foodgrains under the said scheme during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (d) whether reports have been received regarding diversion of AAY commodities during the said period;
- (e) if so, the details thereof indicating the number and nature of complaints received, State-wise;
- (f) the details of action taken including raids and seizures conducted in this regard alongwith the various commodities recovered therein; and
- (g) the corrective steps taken thereon?

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): No, Madam.

(b): A statement on details of estimated and actually covered families under AAY is at Annex-I.

(c): A Statement of State-wise allocation and offtake of foodgrains under AAY during 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10 (upto May, 2009) is at Annex – II.

(d)to(g): Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is implemented jointly by the Government of India and State/Union Territory Governments with sharing of responsibility in this regard. The identification of AAY families based on estimates and guidelines issued by Central Government, issuance of ration card to them and supervision of distribution of allocated food grains to eligible AAY ration card holders through Fair Price Shops rest with the State/UT Governments.

Complaints as and when received by the Government from individuals and organizations as well as through Press Reports about leakages/diversion under TPDS, including AAY, are sent to the concerned State Governments for enquiry and action.

During the last three years (2006, 2007 and 2008) for various malpractices noticed in functioning of TPDS, States/UT Governments have reported arrests/prosecution of 15,553 persons under the provisions of Essential Commodities Act, 1955. Out of these, specific cases pertaining to Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) are not available.

The Government, from time to time, gets evaluation done on functioning of TPDS. The latest concurrent evaluation was done by National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) in 12 States. As per its evaluation reports, in 9 States, namely, Chhattishgarh, Delhi, Jharkhand, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand, AAY households were found receiving foodgrains close to their entitlement of 35 kg per family per month, while in 3 States, namely, Assam, Bihar and Mizoram, these were reported to be lower. These evaluation reports have been sent to concerned State/UT Governments for taking necessary action to streamline functioning of TPDS including AAY.