

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:364

ANSWERED ON:02.08.2011

COVERAGE UNDER FOOD SECURITY ACT

Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Dhanaplan Shri K. P.;Mahajan Smt. Sumitra;Majhi Shri Pradeep Kumar;Nahata Smt. P. Jaya Prada;Pakkirappa Shri S.;Patel Shri Kishanbhai Vestabhai;Reddy Shri K. Jayasurya Prakash;Shekhar Shri Neeraj;Singh Alias Pappu Singh Shri Uday;Singh Shri Yashvir;Thamaraiselvan Shri R.

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

- (a) whether the Government has worked out data the beneficiaries in rural/urban areas likely to be covered under the proposed National Food Security Act;
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating the percentage of population proposed to be covered therein, and the criteria adopted for their identification in the urban and rural areas, separately;
- (c) whether the suggestions made by various bodies, States, experts and other stakeholders have been considered while finalising the coverage under the scheme;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether any objections have been raised over the enactment of the proposed Law; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

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

(a) to (f): In pursuance to the announcement made by the President of India in her address to the Joint Session of Parliament on 4th June, 2009, to enact a new law – the National Food Security Act – the Government prepared a Concept Note and had consultations with the Central Ministries/Departments, States/Union Territories, experts and other stakeholders. Based on their comments/suggestions and recommendations of National Advisory Council (NAC) and Expert Committee constituted under the Chairmanship of Chairman, Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Council, the Government have prepared a draft National Food Security Bill. After legal vetting of this Bill by the Legislative Department and consultations with States and Union Territories on the Draft Bill, approval of Government at the appropriate level will be obtained.