

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2413
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2011
DISTRIBUTION OF FOODGRAINS
Mishra Shri Govind Prasad

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

- (a) whether the per capita-per mensem quantity of foodgrain distributed under the Public Distribution System to the Below Poverty Line population is inadequate to meet their nutritional requirement;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the facts in this regard have been included in the proposed food security bill; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), Government allocates foodgrains (wheat and rice) to States/UTs for distribution to the Below Poverty Line (BPL) families, including Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families @ 35 Kg. per family per month. Allocation of foodgrains are also made to the Above Poverty Line (APL) category, depending on the availability of foodgrains and the past offtake. Public Distribution System is supplemental in nature and is not intended to make available the entire requirement of any of the commodities distributed under it to a household or a section of the society. Under the TPDS, in addition to wheat and rice, presently sugar and kerosene, are also being allocated to the States/ UTs for distribution. Some States/UTs also distribute additional items through the PDS outlets such as pulses, salt, edible oils, etc.

(c) & (d): Based on recommendations of the National Advisory Council (NAC) and Expert Committee constituted under the Chairmanship of Chairman, Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Council and comments/suggestions received from the Central Ministries/Departments, States/UTs, experts and other stakeholders, the Government have prepared a draft National Food Security Bill. After consultations with States and Union Territories on the Draft Bill, approval of Government at the appropriate level will be obtained before introduction of the Bill in the Parliament.