

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:464  
ANSWERED ON:06.09.2011  
CONVERGENCE OF NFSA WITH UID  
Mirdha Dr. Jyoti;Premdas Shri

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

- (a) whether the Government has prepared any draft of the proposed National Food Security Act (NFSA);
- (b) if so, the details and the salient features thereof;
- (c) whether the proposed price differential of foodgrains and the likely extent of coverage of the Act have been incorporated therein;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to link the said scheme to the smart card based Unique Identification (UID) system; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (f): A Statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 464 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 06.09.2011 IN THE LOK SABHA.

(a) to (f): In pursuance of 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, covering various aspects of the proposed legislation.

The Draft Bill provides for food and nutritional security in a human life cycle approach. It contains provisions, inter alia, for coverage of population under two categories of households - priority and general- at subsidised but differentiated prices. The Draft Bill also contains provision for reforms in the Targeted Public Distribution System, including leveraging AADHAR for identification of beneficiaries.

The draft Bill was placed before the Empowered Group of Ministers (EGoM) on 11.07.2011 and in pursuance of the directions of the EGoM, the draft Bill has been got vetted by the Ministry of Law and Justice. After consultations with States/Union Territories and Central Ministries/ Departments on the Draft Bill, approval of Government at the appropriate level will be obtained before its introduction in the Parliament.