

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3314  
ANSWERED ON:23.08.2011  
PDS PRICE  
Singh Shri Yashvir

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

- (a) whether foodgrains and kerosene are supplied to the Fair Price Shops (FPS) at a rate specified by the Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether complaints have been received from some States including Uttar Pradesh regarding supply of the said commodities to FPS at prices higher than the specified price during the last two years and the current year;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, State-wise and year-wise; and
- (e) the corrective steps taken in this regard including action against the guilty officers?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (e): Under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) foodgrains (wheat and rice) are allocated by Government to States/UTs for distribution to 6.52 crore accepted number of BPL families including about 2.44 crore Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families @ 35 kg per family per month. Allocations of foodgrains to Above Poverty Line (APL) families are made depending upon the availability of foodgrains in the central pool and past offtake. Presently, the allocation of foodgrains to APL families ranges between 15 kg and 35 Kg per family per month. Central Government allocates foodgrains (rice and wheat) under TPDS to States/UTs for distribution to BPL, AAY and APL families at Central Issue Prices (CIP) given below:

(Rs. Per Kg.)					
APL	BPL	AAY			
Wheat	Rice	Wheat	Rice	Wheat	Rice
(Gr.A)	(Com/Gr.A)	(Com/Gr.A)		(Com/Gr.A)	
6.10	8.30	4.15	5.65	2.00	3.00

Since 2001, State/UT Governments have been given the flexibility in the matter of fixing the margin for the FPSs. The end retail prices of foodgrains at FPSs are fixed by the States/UTs keeping in view the margin/commission paid to fair price shop dealers, etc. However, the end retail price for AAY families is to be retained at Rs.2/- per kg for wheat and Rs.3/- per kg for rice.

In relation to distribution of kerosene, it is stated that in order to protect the common man, the Government has been modulating the Retail Selling Price of PDS Kerosene. The retail selling price differs from State to State on account of difference in VAT rates etc.

There have been some reports of irregularities in the functioning of the TPDS. Complaints as and when received by Government from individuals and organisations, as well as through press reports on functioning of TPDS, are sent to the concerned State/ UT Governments for inquiry and action. The State-wise details of number of complaints on functioning of TPDS received during the last two years and the current year including in the State of Uttar Pradesh are given in Annexure.

Public Distribution System (Control) Order, 2001 mandates the State and UT Governments to carry out all required action to ensure smooth functioning of TPDS. An offence committed in violation of the provisions of this Order is liable for penal action under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. Strengthening and streamlining of TPDS is a continuous process. To improve functioning of TPDS,

Government has been regularly requesting State and UT Governments for continuous review of lists of BPL and AAY families; ensuring timely availability of foodgrains at fair price shops; ensuring greater transparency in functioning of TPDS; improved monitoring and vigilance at various levels, and introduction of new technologies such as Computerisation of TPDS operations at various levels.