

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1191  
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2011  
DISTRIBUTION OF FOOD ITEMS  
Chavan Shri Harischandra Deoram

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

- (a) whether the Government is implementing any scheme to provide essential food items to the poor, particularly tribal people at a very low rate;
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating the names of States where such a scheme is being implemented alongwith the share of Central assistance therein;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to extend the scheme to cover the entire tribal population of the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (d) The Government has been providing food grains at highly subsidized prices to the targeted population including tribal people through out the country under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS). Foodgrains are also provided under SC/ST/OBC Hostels Scheme and Village Grain Bank (VGB) Scheme covering, among others, tribal students, marginalized families in tribal and other inaccessible areas. During 2011-12, a quantity of 564.05 lakh tons of foodgrains have been allocated to States/UT Administrations under the above schemes.

The Central government incurs a subsidy of 72.69% and 73.74% for rice and wheat under BPL, 85.5% and 87.35% under AAY and 59.9% and 61.4% under APL category respectively.

The allocations of foodgrains to Below Poverty Line (BPL), Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) & Above Poverty Line (APL) families under TPDS are made at subsidized prices as indicated below:

(Rs. per quintal)

Commodity AAY BPL APL

Wheat 200 415 610

Rice 300 565 830

The allocations under Other Welfare Schemes are at BPL prices and under VGB Scheme on loan basis.