

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1227

ANSWERED ON:29.11.2011

REVIEW OF AAY

Mahtab Shri Bhartruhari;Yadav Shri M. Anjan Kumar

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

- (a) whether the Government has reviewed the Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY);
- (b) if so, the details and the outcome thereof;
- (c) the allocation and release of subsidy under the said scheme during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (d) whether requests have been received from some States for increasing the subsidy being provided to the States under the scheme;
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (f) the steps taken to check diversion under the scheme?

Answer

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

(a) to (f): This Department has been getting the functioning of Targeted Public Distribution Systems (TPDS), including the implementation of Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY), evaluated from different agencies from time to time. Such evaluation studies have revealed certain shortcomings/deficiencies in the functioning of TPDS, such as inclusion/exclusion errors, leakages/diversion of foodgrains, etc. The reports received are sent to the concerned States/Union Territories(UTs) for taking necessary remedial measures to remove the deficiencies noticed in the functioning of TPDS.

Under the TPDS, foodgrains (rice & wheat) @ 35 kg per family per month are allocated at Rs.3/- per kg for rice and Rs.2/- per kg for wheat to the States/UTs for distribution to AAY families.

Food subsidy released to Food Corporation of India (FCI) and Decentralized Procurement (DCP) States under TPDS including AAY depends on offtake of foodgrains by the State Governments. The total food subsidy released under AAY during the last three years is as under.

(Rs. in crore)

Year Subsidy released
 (AAY families)

2008-09 12615

2009-10 14224

2010-11 14083

Scheme-wise breakup of subsidy released for the current year is worked out after the end of the financial year.

The details of allocation of foodgrains (rice and wheat) made for AAY category under TPDS for the last three years and current year (2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12) are at Annex -I. Further, the details of adhoc additional allocation of foodgrains made in pursuance to the directions of Hon'ble Supreme Court and recommendation of Central Vigilance Committee (CVC) on PDS for 174 poorest and backward districts in 27 States for the additional AAY families at AAY issue prices are at Annex -II.

Some State/UT Governments have requested for increase in the number of AAY families beyond the targeted number of AAY families given to them. However, as the States/UTs are required to identify the number of AAY families within the ceiling on number of such families given to them, their requests for increase in number of AAY families could not be accepted.

Strengthening and streamlining of TPDS is a continuous process. To improve functioning of TPDS, Government has been regularly requesting State/UT Governments for continuous review of lists of BPL and AAY families, ensuring timely availability of foodgrains at FPSs, ensuring greater transparency in functioning of TPDS, improved monitoring and vigilance at various levels and introduction of new technologies such as Computerization of TPDS operations at various levels.