

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3154

ANSWERED ON:13.12.2011

NATIONAL FOOD SECURITY LAW

Choudhry Smt. Shruti;De Dr. Ratna;Dhurve Jyoti;Dubey Shri Nishikant ;Joshi Dr. Murli Manohar;Kumar Shri Vishwa Mohan;M.Thambidurai Dr. ;Mahto Shri Baidyanath Prasad;Naranbhai Shri Kachhadia;Patel Shri Kishanbhai Vestabhai;Roy Shri Arjun;Shekhar Shri Neeraj;Singh Alias Pappu Singh Shri Uday;Singh Shri Ravneet;Singh Shri Yashvir;Sivasami Shri C.;Swamygowda Shri N Cheluvarama Swamy ;Thamaraiselvan Shri R.

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

- (a) the present status of the proposed National Food Security Bill;
- (b) the reasons for the delay in its enactment alongwith the time by which it is likely to be enacted and implemented;
- (c) whether the Government has made any assessment regarding its likely impact in eradication of hunger; and
- (d) if so, the details and the outcome thereof?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): 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 prepared a draft National Food Security Bill. States/Union Territories and Central Ministries/ Departments were requested for their comments on the draft Bill. The draft Bill was also placed on the website of the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution (<http://fcamin.nic.in>) seeking comments/ suggestions.

Based on the Comments/suggestions received, draft National Food Security Bill has been revised, which will be placed before the appropriate authority for its approval, before introduction in Parliament.

(c) & (d): The proposed Bill seeks to address the issue of food security in a comprehensive manner, by adopting a life cycle approach. The draft Bill provides for food and nutritional security, in human life cycle approach, by ensuring access to adequate quantity of quality food at affordable prices, for people to live a life with dignity. The draft Bill, inter alia, contains provisions for right to receive foodgrains at subsidized prices by persons belonging to priority households and general households under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), nutritional support to pregnant women and lactating mothers and children as well as entitlements for special groups such as destitute persons, homeless, emergency and disaster affected persons, persons living in starvation etc.