

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1368
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2011
NASHIK MODEL OF PDS
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Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the Public Distribution System (PDS) model presently implemented in Nashik;
- (b) the extent to which the said model has been successful in prevention of misuse and promotion of equitable distribution;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to replicate the `Nashik Model` in other parts of the country; and
- (d) if so, the details and the advantages thereof?

Answer

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

(a)to(d): In Nashik district of Maharashtra, Home Delivery Scheme is being implemented for foodgrains under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) on pilot basis. Under this scheme, foodgrains are distributed one time to ration card holders for three months in advance instead of distributing every month. This scheme is optional and ration card holders are required to give their consent and pay issue price in advance. The foodgrains are transported to the village and distributed at a pre-decided date in presence of Village Vigilance Committee Members and government staff. This scheme has been extended by Government of Maharashtra to 5848 villages of 14 districts in the State.

No formal evaluation of this scheme has yet been carried out. However, State Government of Maharashtra has reported that the main advantages of this scheme are as under:-

- a) Food Security to weaker sections of society.
- b) Transparency in TPDS operation.
- c) Reduced level of transactions with FPS and government staff.
- d) Reduced chances of diversion/misuse and black marketing of TPDS commodities.

In this regard, Department of Food & Public Distribution have also issued orders in July, 2011 permitting the States/Union Territories for lifting and distribution of upto six months` ration under TPDS in one go, subject to certain safeguards such as that there should be no compulsion on the beneficiaries to lift their entitlements of upto six months in one go, the existing system of lifting the quota every month and in instalments should continue for those who are not interested or cannot afford to lift the entire quantity, etc.