

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1330
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2011
FOODGRAIN ALLOCATION FOR NER
Deka Shri Ramen

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

- (a) the allocation and offtake of foodgrains in the North Eastern Region (NER) of the country during each of the last two years and the current year, State-wise;
- (b) whether the Union Government has received any request from the North Eastern States including Assam to increase their quota or make additional allocation of foodgrains and kerosene under the Public Distribution System;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (d) whether any special dispensation exists for the North Eastern Region on account of difficult topography and inadequate means of communication and infrastructure therein; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a): The State-wise details of allocation and offtake of foodgrains to North Eastern Region made under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) during last two years and current year are as per Annex-I.

(b)to(e): The commodity-wise details are as under-

Foodgrains:

Under the TPDS, allocation of foodgrains are being made to all States/Union Territories (UTs), including the North Eastern States, on the basis of uniformly applicable norms. Full allocation is being made for the accepted number of Below Poverty Line (BPL) and Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families in all States/UTs, including NE States. Allocations of foodgrains for Above Poverty Line (APL) families are made depending upon availability of foodgrain stocks in the Central Pool and past offtake by the States/UTs. Considering the geographical location and topography of the NE Region, all NE region States of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Mizoram, Meghalaya, Nagaland and Tripura are made full allocations of foodgrains @ 35 kg per family per month under APL category also.

Requests have been received from NE States including Assam for additional allocation of food grains. taking into consideration their requests and stock available in Central Pool, additional allocations have been made to the NE States during 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 for BPL/APL families as per Annex-II.

Kerosene:

Government has received requests for enhancement of PDS Kerosene from the State Governments of Arunachal Pradesh and Meghalaya. The Govt. of Assam also requested for additional allocation of PDS Kerosene on account of floods. Requests of State Government of Arunachal Pradesh & Meghalaya could not be agreed as Government had taken into consideration the difficult terrain and logistics prevalent in North East States in the rationalization of annual allocation of PDS SKO during the year 2010-11 and 2011-12. Further, the SKO quota was not reduced corresponding to expansion in LPG in these States, as was done for other States/UTs. The request of the State Govt. of Assam for additional PDS Kerosene oil was received in anticipation of floods, and later much after the calamity (flood) was over. As per the extant policy, any additional allocation is made by Government to States/UTs on occurrence of a natural calamity as an immediate relief to the affected people.