

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:972
ANSWERED ON:20.03.2012
INCLUSION OF TRIBALS UNDER AAY
Rajesh Shri M. B.

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

- (a) whether the Union Government has permitted the States to include all the tribals under the Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the State Governments including Kerala have requested the Union Government to increase the number of families to be covered under AAY and accordingly increase the allocation of foodgrains; 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 guidelines issued to the State/Union Territory (UT) Governments for identification of Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families stipulate that all primitive tribal households may be identified as AAY families.

Requests have been received from some State Governments including State Government of Kerala for coverage of additional families and allocation of foodgrains under AAY. As the State Governments are required to identify AAY families within the ceiling on number of AAY families given to each State/UT, their request for coverage of additional families under AAY beyond the targeted number could not be acceded to.

Further, the State Government of Kerala had requested for enhancing the number of AAY families in the State to include all tribal families and allocation of foodgrains to such families. The request from the State Government was considered and State Government was informed that the present guidelines for identification of AAY families provide for inclusion of all primitive tribal households and that the State may prioritize inclusion of the tribal families under AAY.