

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1589
ANSWERED ON:21.08.2012
PRIVATISATION OF PDS
Balram Shri P.;Dhruvanarayana Shri R.

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken any steps to meet the food and nutrition security needs of the poor people especially the tribals in Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether channeling of more foodgrains through private trade at prices below the Minimum Support Price has been identified as a better option for providing foodgrains to the poor; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

Answer

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

(a) to (c): Under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) Government allocates rice & wheat @ 35 kg. per family per month for the accepted number of 40.63 lakh Below Poverty Line (BPL) including of 15.58 lakh Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families in the State of Andhra Pradesh. The BPL and AAY families covered under TPDS also include tribal population in State.

In addition to the normal allocation of foodgrains under TPDS, Government has been making adhoc additional allocation for the BPL and AAY families of Andhra Pradesh from time to time. During the year 2011-12, Government allocated a quantity of 3,83,439 tons of rice for the BPL families at BPL price and 44,928 tons of rice for the AAY families at AAY price in Andhra Pradesh. During the current year also, the Government has allocated 3,11,570 tons of foodgrains (wheat and rice) for additional BPL families in Andhra Pradesh and 11,584 tons of rice for the additional AAY families in two poorest districts of the State.

(d) and (e): Under the Open Market Sale Scheme (Domestic) [OMSS(D)], Government has approved additional allocation of 30 lakh tons of wheat for tender sale to bulk consumers for the period July, 2012 to March, 2013. In addition, balance quantity from the wheat allocation of 15 lakh tons made for the period October 2011 to September, 2012 had also been allowed to be sold to bulk consumers through tenders. Out of this, 13.20 lakh tons of wheat has been offered for sale in different States so far.