

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:160  
ANSWERED ON:14.07.2009  
FOOD SECURITY  
Swaraj Smt. Sushma

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

- (a) whether a meeting of State Food Secretaries was held in New Delhi recently to discuss food security and the modalities for identifying the poor under the Food Security Schemes;
- (b) if so, the details and the outcome thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is aware that foodgrains are not being distributed properly; and
- (d) if so, the corrective action taken thereon?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION(SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a), (b), (c) & (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF THE STARRED QUESTION NO.160 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 14.07.2009 IN THE LOK SABHA.

(a),(b),(c)&(d):Government proposes to enact the National Food Security Act.As part of the consultation process with State Governments, Central Government Departments, experts and other stake holders, first consultation with State/UT Governments on various aspects of the proposed legislation was held on 10th June 2009. Based on this, State Governments have been requested to furnish comments/suggestions on the proposed law. Comments from some State/UT Governments have been received.

Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is operated under the joint responsibility of the Government of India and State/UT Governments. Responsibilities for lifting of food grains allocated by Central Government, their allocation within the State/UT, identification of eligible BPL & AAY families based on estimates of Planning Commission, issuance of ration cards to them, and ensuring proper distribution of allocated foodgrains to eligible ration card holders through fair price shops rest with the State/UT Governments.

Central Government has been continuously taking up with State/UT Governments to streamline functioning of TPDS through various measures such as regular inspections, involvement of Panchayat Raj institutions in TPDS operation, use of information technology, display of fair price shop wise allocation on website, door step delivery of TPDS commodities to fair price shops, etc.