

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1788  
ANSWERED ON:04.12.2012  
NUTRITIOUS FOOD  
Badal Harsimrat Kaur;Patle Kamla Devi

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

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any survey to ascertain the nutritional level in the backward and rural areas of various States;
- (b) if so, the details and the outcome thereof along with the minimum nutritional norms fixed by the Government for various categories of people including moderately active adult and children;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to supply foodgrains to the persons belonging to the Below Poverty Line (BPL), Above Poverty Line (APL) and other categories as per their nutritional requirement; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken thereon indicating the total quantum of foodgrains required for the purpose?

**Answer**

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

(a): National Family Health Survey-3 (NFHS-3) is the last survey conducted in 2005-06 which provides the data on nutrition indicators at State level. As per this survey, 42.5% children under 5 years are underweight and the prevalence in other backward class and rural areas is 54.5% and 45.6% respectively. 35.6% of women in the age group of 15-49 years suffer from chronic energy deficiency (CED) (measured as low body mass index) while CED is 35.7% and 40.6% in other backward class and rural areas.

(b): The Recommended Daily Allowances (RDA) for Indians as per Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) is at Annex-I.

(c)&(d): Government of India makes allocation of foodgrains under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) to States/UTs @ 35 kg per family per month for all accepted 6.52 crore Below Poverty Line (BPL) (Including 2.43 crore Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families in the country on the basis of 1993-94 poverty estimates of Planning Commission and March 2000 population estimates of Registrar General of India (RGI). Allocations of foodgrains for APL category are made depending upon the availability of stocks of foodgrains in the Central Pool and past offtake. At present, these allocations range between 15 kg and 35 kg per family per month in different States/UTs. During the current year 2012-13, 499.42 lakh tons of foodgrains have been allocated under TPDS covering AAY, BPL and APL families. In addition to normal TPDS allocation, 69.42 lakh tons of foodgrains have been allocated for distribution to additional BPL/AAY families during the current year. Further, 7.10 lakh tons of foodgrains have been allocated for flood/drought relief, festivals, etc. During the current year, so far a quantity of 49.00 lakh tons of foodgrains has been allocated under Other Welfare Schemes such as Mid-Day-Meal Scheme, Wheat Based Nutrition Programme (WBNP), Rajiv Gandhi Scheme for Empowerment of Adolescent Girls (RGSEAG) - Sabla, SC/ST/OBC Hostels Scheme, Annapurna Scheme and Emergency Feeding Programme etc.