

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:256
ANSWERED ON:26.02.2013
BENEFICIARIES UNDER PDS
Dubey Shri Nishikant

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

- (a) the number of families being benefited under the Public Distribution System (PDS)/Targetted Public Distribution System (TPDS)/Antodaya Anna Yojana (AAY);
- (b) whether adequate stocks of various items being distributed under these schemes are available with the Government agencies;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the details of the specific steps being taken to meet the demand of the said items under PDS?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): Under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), Government allocates foodgrains (rice and wheat) @ 35 kg. per family per month to States/Union Territories (UTs) for 6.52 crore accepted number of Below Poverty Line (BPL) families, which includes about 2.43 crore Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families, for distribution at subsidized prices through Fair Price Shops (FPSs). Allocation of foodgrains to about 11.52 crore Above Poverty Line (APL) families are also made depending upon the availability of foodgrains in the Central pool and the past offtake. Presently, the allocation of foodgrains to APL families ranges between 15 and 35 kg per family per month.

The stock of foodgrains (rice and wheat) in the Central pool as on 1.2.2013 was 661.93 lakhs tons comprising 353.84 lakh tons of rice and 308.09 lakh tons of wheat. The current level of stock of foodgrains is adequate to meet the requirement of foodgrains as per the existing level of allocations under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS).