

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:299

ANSWERED ON:26.02.2013

BENEFICIARIES UNDER TPDS

Devappa Anna Shri Shetti Raju Alias;Tandon Annu

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

- (a) whether a meeting of the State Food Secretaries was held to discuss the issue of 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 proposes to revise the parameters for identification of beneficiaries under the Targetted Public Distribution System (TPDS);
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken to strengthen the PDS/TDPS?

Answer

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

(a) to (d) A meeting of Food Ministers and Food Secretaries of States/Union Territories (UTs) was held on 13.02.2013 in New Delhi to discuss recommendations of the Standing Committee on Food, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution on the National Food Security Bill, 2011, which was introduced in the Lok Sabha on 22.12.2011. Recommendations of the Standing Committee on various aspects of the Bill, including identification of beneficiaries, were discussed in the meeting. After finalizing its views on recommendations of the Standing Committee, Government will move necessary amendments to the Bill, wherever required, for consideration of the Parliament.

(e) Strengthening and streamlining of the Targetted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is a continuous process. Government has regularly reviewed and has issued instructions to States/UTs to strengthen functioning of TPDS by improving monitoring mechanism and vigilance, improved transparency in functioning of TPDS, adoption of revised Model Citizen's Charter, use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) tools and improving the viability of fair price shop operations.