

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2383

ANSWERED ON:12.03.2013

ALLOCATION OF FOODGRAINS

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

- (a) the details of the criteria adopted for calculating the number of beneficiaries and the quantum of foodgrains allocated to the States for distribution under various welfare schemes;
- (b) whether some States have requested the Union Government to adopt a new criteria or make relaxations therein to increase the number of beneficiaries and allocation of various items;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (d) the steps taken to check diversion and black-marketing of the said items provided under the Public Distribution System and other welfare schemes?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

(PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a): Government of India makes allocation of foodgrains under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), on the basis of 1993-94 poverty estimates of Planning Commission and March 2000 population estimates of Registrar General of India or the number of such families actually identified and ration cards issued to them by the State/UT Governments, whichever is less. Below Poverty Line (BPL) families and Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families are allocated foodgrains @ 35 kg per family per month. Allocations for Above Poverty Line (APL) families are made depending upon the availability of stocks of foodgrains in the Central Pool and past offtake by the States/UTs. Presently, these allocations range between 15 kg and 35 kg per family per month in different States/UTs. For allocation of foodgrains to Other Welfare Schemes

(OWS) being implemented by various Ministries/Departments of Government of India, the details of criteria adopted for eligible beneficiaries and quantum of foodgrains under OWS are at Annex.

(b) & (c): Requests have been received from some States/UTs for higher/additional allocation as per the current population. Considering the availability of stocks of foodgrains in the Central Pool and the requests of States/UTs, the Government has been making additional allocation of foodgrains to States/UTs to enable them to meet their additional requirement.

(d) : TPDS is operated under the joint responsibility of the Central and the State/Union Territory (UT) Governments. Central Government is responsible for procurement, allocation and transportation of foodgrains up to the designated depots of the Food Corporation of India. The operational responsibilities for allocation of foodgrains within the States/UTs, identification of eligible Below Poverty Line (BPL) families, issuance of ration cards to them and supervision over and monitoring of functioning of Fair Price Shops (FPSs) rest with the concerned State/UT Governments.

With a view to curb the leakages / diversion of foodgrains under TPDS, a Nine Point Action Plan was evolved in July, 2006 in consultation with the State/UT Governments. Government has been regularly monitoring the action being taken by States / UTs including advisories, holding conferences etc. wherein State / UT Governments are requested to implement the Nine Point Action Plan.

Strengthening and streamlining of 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, increased 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.