

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1937  
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2009  
ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES AT SUBSIDIZED RATES  
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**Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Government is considering any proposal to distribute the essential commodities through fair price shops, Mother Dairy Booths etc. to the people at subsidized rates; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a)&(b): Government is implementing Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), which focuses on the poor and is operated under joint responsibility of Central and the State/UT Governments. Foodgrains (rice, wheat, & coarse grains) and sugar are allocated to all States & Union Territory Governments for distribution to ration card holders at subsidized prices through Fair Price Shops.

Under TPDS, foodgrains @35 kg./family/month are allocated for 6.52 crore BPL/AAY families. Depending upon their availability in central pool, foodgrains are also allocated for Above Poverty Line (APL) families. Presently the allocations for APL category range between 10 and 35 kg foodgrains per family, per month.

The Central Issue Prices (CIP) of foodgrains (wheat, rice and coarse grains) under TPDS are given below:

(Rs per Kg.)								
APL	BPL	AAAY						
Wheat	Rice	Coarse	Wheat	Rice	Coarse	Wheat	Rice	Coarse
Gr.A	Grains	(Com/	Wheat	Rice	Coarse	Wheat	Rice	Coarse
Gr.A)	Gr.A)	grains	(Com/	grains	(Com/	grains	(Com/	grains
6.10	8.30	4.50	4.15	5.65	3.00	2.00	3.00	1.50

From 01.02.2001, allocation of levy sugar to States/UTs is being made only for BPL/AAY families, except for NE States, hilly States and island territories for which the allocation is being made for coverage of BPL as well as APL families. The retail issue price of levy sugar under TPDS in the country is Rs.13.50 per kg. since 1.3.2002.

In order to contain price rise of certain additional commodities such as pulses & edible oils, the Central Government imports them as per requisitions of State/UT Governments and subsidizes for their distribution to consumers.

In addition to the commodities allocated by central Government under TPDS, State/UT Governments may organize distribution of additional essential commodities through fair price shops and other outlets.

As reported by the Government of NCT of Delhi, pulses are being sold through 288 outlets of Mother Dairy and 80 outlets of Circle & Zonal Offices of Food & Supplies Department, Government of NCT of Delhi. So far, 700 tons of pulses have been sold to the consumers through these outlets.