

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6642
ANSWERED ON:07.05.2013
BPL CAP
Choudhry Smt. Shruti

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

(a) whether the Government has decided to introduce the new Below Poverty Line (BPL) cap only after the completion of caste census; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): For allocation of foodgrains (wheat and rice) to States and Union Territories (UTs) under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), Department of Food and Public Distribution uses the number of Below Poverty Line (BPL) families based on 1993-94 poverty estimates of Planning Commission and the population estimates of Registrar General of India as on 1st March 2000 or the number of such families actually identified and ration cards issued to them by State/UT Governments, whichever is less. As per these estimates, the accepted number of BPL families is 6.52 crore, which includes 2.43 crore Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families.

There is no proposal under consideration of the Government at present to review the number of BPL households under TPDS or to introduce new BPL Cap.