

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:379

ANSWERED ON:06.08.2013

NATIONAL FOOD SECURITY SCHEME .

Bauri Smt. Susmita;Bhujbal Shri Sameer ;Chaudhary Shri Arvind Kumar;Choudhry Smt. Shruti;Joshi Dr. Murl Manohar;Ramkishun Shri ;Ray Shri Rudramadhab ;Shekhar Shri Neeraj;Singh Shri Dhananjay ;Singh Shri Rajiv Ranjan (Lalan);Singh Shri Yashvir;Tagore Shri Manicka

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

- (a) whether the Government has recently notified the National Food Security Scheme to give legal right to the people to obtain food;
- (b) if so, the details and the salient features thereof indicating the number of persons covered, their entitlement and the criteria adopted for identifying the beneficiaries and finalising the food entitlements;
- (c) the quantum of foodgrains and other commodities required along with the total expenditure likely to be incurred on the implementation of the scheme and the manner in which the amount is proposed to be raised; and
- (d) whether some experts as well as the States have expressed reservations about this scheme and if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto along with the steps taken to address these apprehensions and draw a consensus?

Answer

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

(PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a) and (b): There is no scheme of the Government named National Food Security Scheme. The Government has however promulgated National Food Security Ordinance, 2013, on 5.7.2013, to provide for food and nutritional security in human life cycle approach. Salient features of the Ordinance indicating coverage, entitlements etc are at Annex.

(c): The annual requirement of foodgrains for implementation of the Ordinance is estimated at 612.3 million tons and the associated annual subsidy implication, at 2013-14 costs, is about Rs.1,24,747 crore. The expenditure will be met out of budget allocation for food subsidy made available to the Department of Food and Public Distribution.

(d): The legislation on national food security has been finalized after wide ranging consultations/discussions with all the stakeholders including experts and State Governments and keeping in view the recommendations of Parliamentary Standing Committee on Food, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution.