

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:384

ANSWERED ON:06.08.2013

SUBSIDISED FOODGRAINS

Agarwal Shri Rajendra;Mohan Shri P. C.;Pandurang Shri Munde Gopinathrao;Rathwa Shri Ramsinhbhai Patalbhai

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

- (a) whether some States are providing subsidised foodgrains to the poor free of cost or at a very cheap price of one/two rupees per kg under their respective food security schemes;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the assistance provided to the States by the Union Government for implementation of the said schemes, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to link the National Food Security scheme with these schemes; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): Under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), Central Government is providing foodgrains (rice and wheat) to States/Union Territories (UTs) at subsidized prices for various categories of beneficiaries namely Below Poverty Line (BPL) Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) and Above Poverty Line (APL) families. The difference between the economic cost of foodgrains and the Central Issue Prices (CIPs) is borne by the Central Government as food subsidy. However, some States / UTs are further subsidizing and providing foodgrains to the beneficiaries at rates lower than the CIP. The entire cost of further subsidization is to be borne by the States / UTs.

(c) & (d): Government has promulgated the National Food Security Ordinance, 2013 on 05.07.2013 to provide for food and nutritional security in human life cycle approach. As per the provisions of the Ordinance, 75% and 50% of the rural and urban population respectively will be eligible to receive highly subsidized foodgrains at Rs. 1, 2, 3 per kg for coarsegrains, wheat and rice respectively.

The provisions of this Ordinance do not preclude the Central Government or the State Government from continuing or formulating other food based welfare schemes. It further provides that the State Government may continue with or formulate food or nutrition based plans or schemes providing for benefits higher than the benefits provided under this Ordinance, from its own resources.