

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:709  
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2013  
PDS FOR BPL  
Mani Shri Jose K.

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

- (a) whether the Government has any proposal to limit the Public Distribution System (PDS) exclusively to those possessing the Below Poverty Line (BPL) cards;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has received any request from Kerala for allocation of more foodgrains for the BPL community; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b) Government allocates foodgrains (rice and wheat) to States/UTs under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) for distribution to the accepted number of Below Poverty Line (BPL) including Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families. Depending on the availability of foodgrains and past offtake, Government also allocates foodgrains to States/UTs for distribution to the Above Poverty Line (APL) families.

There is no proposal to limit the allocation of foodgrains under TPDS exclusively for the BPL families. Under the National Food Security Act (NFSA) 2013, which has been notified on 10.09.2013, the coverage under TPDS has been delinked from the poverty estimates and shall extend up to 75% of the rural population and up to 50% of the urban population.

(c) & (d) Government of Kerala has reported 32.30 lakh BPL families, including 5.92 lakh AAY families, in the State for allocation of foodgrains under TPDS and requested for additional monthly allocation of 39384 tons of rice and 19417 tons of wheat for additional BPL card holders in the State.

Under the TPDS, allocation of foodgrains are being made for 15.54 lakh accepted number of BPL families, including 5.96 lakh AAY families, in the State of Kerala. In addition, Government has been making additional allocation of foodgrains to the State for additional BPL families at BPL prices since 2010-11 as follows:

Year      Additional allocation of BPL families (In thousand tons)

Rice    Wheat    Total

2010-11      96.970    28.683    125.653

2011-12      98.828    25.408    124.236

2012-13      218.783    88.553    307.336

2013-14 84.978 34.190 119.168

Allocation for 2011-12 and 2012-13 also includes additional allocation made for additional BPL/AAY families in the poorest districts of the State.