

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:814  
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2013  
FOOD SECURITY ACT  
Ray Shri Rudramadhab

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

- (a) the salient features of the National Food Security Act (NFSA);
- (b) whether there are reports of alleged bias/favouritism in favour of some States with regard to allocation of funds and other commodities under the NFSA; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to ensure unbiased allocation of various benefits to all the States without any discrimination?

**Answer**

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

- (a) Salient features of the National Food Security Act 2013 (NFSA) are at Annexure.
- (b) and (c) Some States/Union Territories (UTs) have expressed apprehension about inadequate coverage of population and reduced allocation of foodgrains under NFSA as compared to their present allocation under the existing Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS).

The NFSA provides for coverage of upto 75% of the rural and 50% of the urban population to receive subsidised foodgrains under TPDS at the all India level, corresponding to which State-wise coverage has been determined by the Planning Commission in a fair and transparent manner, on the basis of National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) data for 2011-12 on consumption expenditure. However, as the allocation of foodgrains based on the coverage so determined and entitlements prescribed in the Act is estimated to be less than the allocation under existing TPDS in case of some States/UTs, it has been provided in the Act that the annual allocation of foodgrains of such States/UTs will be protected to the extent of their average annual offtake under normal TPDS during last three years.