

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3869

ANSWERED ON:18.02.2014

FOODGRAIN ENTITLEMENT

Ganpatrao Shri Jadhav Prataprao;Khaire Shri Chandrakant Bhaurao;Meghwal Shri Arjun Ram ;Rajaram Shri Wakchaure
Bhausahab;Rajesh Shri M. B.;Ramasubbu Shri S.;Shankar Alias Kushal Tiwari Shri Bhisma

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

(a) the number of Below Poverty Line (BPL) and Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) beneficiaries and their entitlements under the Public Distribution System (PDS)/Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and AAY, State/UT-wise;

(b) whether there are complaints from some States that the BPL and AAY beneficiaries are not getting their full quota of entitlements;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the corrective action taken in this regard indicating the quantum of foodgrains allocated, lifted and distributed during each of the last three years and the current year, scheme and State/UT-wise; and

(d) whether some States have reportedly failed to lift their full quota of foodgrains and if so, the details thereof and the corrective steps taken in this regard, State/UT-wise?

Answer

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

(a) Government allocates foodgrains under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) at the rate of 35 kg per family per month to States and Union Territories (UTs) for distribution to 6.52 crore accepted number of Below Poverty Line (BPL) families, which includes about 2.43 crore Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families. Statement showing State/UT-wise number of BPL and AAY families as on 31.12.2013 is at Annex-I.

Further, Government has notified the National Food Security Act, 2013 on 10th September, 2013, which inter alia provides a right to the eligible households to receive subsidized foodgrains under TPDS. The Act provides for coverage of upto 75% of the rural and upto 50% of the urban population at the all India level. Every person belonging to priority household is entitled to receive 5 kg of foodgrains per person per month. The existing AAY households will continue to receive 35 kg of foodgrains per household per month. The coverage of population under TPDS in the Act has been delinked from poverty estimates.

(b) to (d) Some State/UTs are distributing quantities less than the quantities allocated by the Government to the TPDS beneficiaries as they have issued ration cards in excess of the accepted numbers of beneficiaries. In terms of the Public Distribution System (Control) Order 2001, State/UT Governments are to review the lists of BPL and AAY families every year for the purpose of deletion of ineligible families and inclusion of eligible families. Keeping in view the availability of stocks and requirements/requests received from States/UTs, Government has also been making additional allocation of foodgrains over and above the normal allocation under TPDS.

The lifting of foodgrains allocated under TPDS varies from State to State. Details of the quantities of foodgrains allocated and their offtake for the last three years and the current year are given at Annex- II and III. However, details of the quantity of foodgrains distributed by States/UTs to the intended beneficiaries are not maintained in the Department.

Government has been urging States/UTs to lift their entire allocated quota of foodgrains through quarterly advisories, individual letters, various conferences and periodical meetings with them. Utilization Certificates are also obtained from States/UTs in respect of the foodgrains allocated to them under TPDS.