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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:73 ANSWERED ON:24.02.2015 ALLOCATION FOR PDS

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

- (a) whether the Government has allocated foodgrains to the States as per their demand/entitlement;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor indicating the number of Above Poverty Line (APL) and Below Poverty Line (BPL) beneficiaries, percapita entitlement, demand, allocation and offtake of foodgrains during each of the last three years and the current year, State and scheme-wise;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to increase the APL/BPL allocation and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Supreme Court had issued any directions to Government for distribution of foodgrains to the poor facing starvation, if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon; and
- (e) whether the number of the poor people were deprived of the benefits under the scheme and if so, the details thereof and the corrective action taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB PATIL DANVE)

(a) to (c) Under the existing Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), States/Union Territories (UTs) are allocated foodgrains @ 35 kg per family per month to the Below Poverty Line (BPL) families, including Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families and @ 15 to 35 kg per family per month for Above Poverty Line (APL) families as per their entitlement based on 1993-94 poverty estimates of Planning Commission and March, 2000 population estimates. The States/UTs who have imple- mented National Food Security Act (NFSA) are allocated foodgrains under TPDS @ 5 kg per month per person belonging to priority category and @ 35 kg per family per month for AAY category on the basis of 2011 population estimates as per their entitlement under the Act or the beneficiaries identified by them.

In addition to the normal TPDS allocation during the current year, the Government has allocated additional quantity of 29.86 lakh tons of foodgrains at BPL rates for additional BPL families and 36.59 lakh tons of foodgrains at APL rates for APL families in the States/UTs who have not implemented NFSA so far. Government has also allocated 9.54 lakh tons of foodgrains to the States to meet their additional requi- rement under TPDS.

(d) & (e) Hon'ble Supreme Court vide its orders dated 14.5.2011 had directed the Union of India to reserve 50 lakh tons of foodgrains for distribution, as a one time measure, to the poorest districts or the extremely poor and vulnerable sections of our society. In pursuance of the directions of Hon'ble Supreme Court and as per the recommendations of the committee headed by Justice (Retd.) D.P. Wadhwa, Government allocated 44.90 lakh tons of foodgrains during 2011-12 and 2012-13 for distribution to additional BPL and AAY families identified in the poorest districts in States. The Government has however been continuing to allocate additional foodgrains for BPL families. During the current year a quantity of 29.86 lakh tons has been allocated for additional BPL families in the States/UTs.