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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3435 ANSWERED ON:17.03.2015 IMPLEMENTATION OF NFSA Singh Shri Abhishek

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

(a) whether necessary arrangements have been made in the States for effective implementation of the provisions of the Food Security Act, if so, the details thereof;

(b) if not, the names of the States wherein the work to strengthen the Public Distribu- tion System is still under implementation;

(c) whether any financial assistance is being provided to the States to strengthen the Public Distribution System;

(d) if so, the details thereof indicating the amount of funds provided to the States for the purpose during the last three years, Statewise along with the items of works for which the said funds were utilised; and

(e) the quantity of foodgrains given per person/ per family under the Public Distribution System, State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN)

(a) to (d): Before implementation of the National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA), States/Union Te- rritories (UTs) are required to identify the eligible households and complete other prepa- ratory activities. Based on the preparedness reported by 11 States/UTs namely, Bihar, Chan- digarh, Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Punjab and Rajasthan, allocation of foodgrains under the Act has started to them. Remaining 25 States/UTs have not completed all the preparatory measures required for implementation of the Act. In these States/UTs foodgrains allocation under existing Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is continuing.

Strengthening and streamlining of TPDS is a con- tinuous process. Government is implementing a Plan Scheme on End-to-end Computerisation of TPDS Operations on cost sharing basis with the States/UTs. Costs are being shared on 90:10 basis in respect of North Eastern States and on 50:50 basis with other States/UTs. Component-I of the Scheme comprises activities, namely, digitization of ration cards/beneficiary and other data- bases, computerisation of supply-chain management, setting up of transparency portals and grievance redressal mechanisms. Details of funds released to States/UTs and expenditure reported by them are at Annex-I.

(e): Government of India allocates foodgrains under existing TPDS, to States and Union Terri- tories (UTs) for distribution to Below Poverty Line (BPL) families, which includes Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families, @ 35 kg per family per month. Allocation of foodgrains to Above Poverty Line (APL) families are also made depe- nding upon the availability of foodgrains in the Central Pool and the past offtake. Prese- ntly the allocation of foodgrains to APL fami- lies range between 15 and 35 kg per family per month. However, quantity actually distributed differs across States. Under NFSA, every person belonging to priority households is entitled to receive 5 Kg of foodgrains per person per month. AAY households are entitled to receive 35 Kg of foodgrains per household per month. The state- ments indicating State/UT- wise scale of issue of foodgrains under TPDS as reported by respe- ctive State/UT from time to time are at Annex-II.