

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2669

ANSWERED ON:09.12.2014

REVIEW OF PDS

Dhruvanarayana Shri Rangaswamy;Sigrival Shri Janardan Singh;Singh Deo Shri Kalikesh Narayan

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to review the Public Distribution System being implemented in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the view points expressed by various State Governments in this regard; and
- (c) the number of Below Poverty Line (BPL) families in the country along with the fair price shops operational and foodgrains distributed therefrom during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Strengthening and streamlining of Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is a continuous endeavour. To improve functioning of TPDS, Government has been regularly issuing advisories and holding meetings, conferences, etc. wherein State/UT Governments are requested for review of lists of beneficiaries, improving the offtake of allocated foodgrains, ensuring timely availability of foodgrains at Fair Price Shops (FPSs), greater transparency in functioning of TPDS, increased monitoring and vigilance at various levels, improving the viability of FPS operations, etc.

The National Food Security Act, 2013, notified on 10.09.2013, also contains measures for reforms in TPDS, to be undertaken progressively by the Central and State/UT Governments. These reforms inter alia include door-step delivery of foodgrains at the FPS, application of information and communication technology tools including end to end computerisation, preference to public institutions/bodies in licensing of FPSs, etc.

From time to time, States/UTs raise various issues regarding problems faced in implementation of the above-referred measures, need for technical and financial support, etc. These issues are examined and requisite clarification and assistance is provided to States/UTs.

(c): State/UT-wise number of Below Poverty Lines (BPL) families including Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families and number of FPSs are at Annex- I. The details regarding foodgrains allocated by Government to States/UTs and their offtake for distribution under TPDS is at Annex – II.