

Title: Need to provide rice under Antyodaya Anna Yojana to the people of Kandhamal district in Orissa.

SHRI RUDRAMADHAB RAY (KANDHAMAL): Sir, I have been continuously raising the alarming food insecurity situation in Kandhamal District of Orissa in this august House. Kandhamal District has the lowest food security in South East Asia.

Further due to communal riots and violence in the year 2008-09, the economic conditions of the people have become worse. More than 70 per cent of the population of the area belong to the Scheduled Caste and Schedule Tribe, of which 53 per cent belong to the Scheduled Tribe community. Due to mistake in the BPL survey, 35,000 families do not have BPL cards. As a result of this they are deprived of getting rice at Rs. 2 per kg. as introduced by the Government of Orissa. I have been repeatedly requesting the hon. Union Agriculture Minister to provide rice under AAY to at least 25,000 families so that they can avail of this facility of having rice at Rs. 2 per kg. But the Government of India instead of granting this, is sending different unrealistic queries for which the poor people are not getting natural justice.

I therefore urge upon the Government to immediately sanction AAY rice for 25,000 families of Kandhamal district to save them from starvation.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Bwiswmuthiary, you can raise only one issue.