

Antyodaya Anna Yojana in Orissa

1853. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Antyodaya Anna Yojana launched by Government has helped in providing highly-subsidised foodgrains to the poorest of the poor families in Orissa where starvation deaths have been reported;

(b) if so, the details of the same;

(c) the number of families who fall under such scheme; and

(d) the States which are implementing this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) Yes, Sir. Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) has helped in providing highly subsidized foodgrains to the poorest of the poor families in Orissa.

(b) and (c) AAY envisages identification of 1 crore poorest of the poor families in the country and providing them with highly subsidized foodgrains @ Rs. 2 a kg. for wheat and Rs. 3 a kg. for rice. The scheme has been implemented in the State of Orissa after identification of beneficiaries and issue of distinctive cards to 5,05,500 Antyodaya families from September, 2001. Government of India is allotting 12,638 MTs of rice per month to the State @ 25 kg./family per month for distribution at the retail issue price of Rs. 3/- per kg.

(d) The AAY has been implemented in all States/UTs except Arunachal Pradesh, Delhi, Manipur, Lakshadweep and Tamil Nadu where the task of identification of Antyodaya families and issue of distinctive ration cards is in progress.