

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-----|-------------|---------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| | | 6. Coconut oil | | |
| | | 7. Chillies | | |
| | | 8. Spices | | |
| | | 9. Tea dust | | |
| | | 10. Milk products | | |
| | | 11. Detergent powder | | |
| | | 12. Toilet soaps | | |
| | | 13. Salt | | |
| | | 14. Cement | | |
| | | 15. Steel | | |
| | | 16. River sand | | |
| | | 17. Granite metal | | |
| | | 18. Cloth items | | |
| | | 19. Electrical goods etc. | | |
| 35. | Pondicherry | 1. Toor Dal | Rs. 34/- per Kg. | Rs. 50/- per kg. |
| | | 2. Black Gram Dal | Rs. 26/- per kg. | Rs. 40/- per kg. |
| | | 3. Coriander | Rs. 59/- per kg. | Rs. 100/- per kg. |
| | | 4. Chillies | Rs. 18.50/- half kg. | Rs. 65/- per kg. |
| | | 5. Iodised Powdered Salt | Nil | Rs. 3.50 |
| | | 6. Tamarind | Nil | Rs. 17.50 |
| | | 7. Palm Oil | Rs. 40/- per litre | Rs. 53/- per litre |

Number of beneficiaries under Food Security Act

†2299. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry has proposed to bring down the existing number of 10.68 crore beneficiaries of cheaper foodgrains to 5.9 crore under Food Security Act; and

(b) if so, the rationale therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) As per the existing allocation norms for foodgrains under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), States and UTs are being allocated foodgrains for 6.52 crore Below Poverty Line (BPL) and Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families. This number of BPL families is based on 1993-94 poverty estimates and March, 2000 population estimates. However, based on 2004-05 poverty estimates and March, 2009 population estimates, number of BPL families works out to 5.91 crores. As against this, States and UTs have issued excess BPL ration cards. Total number of such cards, as reported by 30.06.2009 is 10.86 crore.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Details of eligible BPL families to be covered, methodology for their identification, issue of targeted identification cards to them, etc. under the proposed National Food Security Act, are yet to be worked out. Examination of different aspects of the proposed law in consultation with various stakeholders is presently in progress.

More items to be sold through PDS

2300. SHRI P.R. RAJAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has made any assessment of the prices of essential pulses and foodgrains in the open market and under Government run Public Distribution System in the last one year;

(b) whether more items would be allowed to sell through the PDS; and

(c) if so, the details and price list thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A statement indicating additional commodities being distributed through PDS outlets other than Wheat, Rice, Coarse grains, sugar, Kerosene oil (as reported by respective State/UTs) is enclosed as Statement. [Refer to the Statement appended to the Answer to Unstarred Question No. 2298 Part (c) and (d)]

Rise in price of pulses

†2301. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI:

SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

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

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that despite unprecedented decline in inflation, the price of pulses are at the highest as it may be mentioned that pulses is the basic food for the poor people of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for the failure of Government in controlling the price of pulses; and

(d) the steps Government is going to take to bring down the price of pulses immediately?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) Government is aware of the rise in prices of pulses. The prices of pulses (except chana) have registered an increase over the past one year. The wholesale price Index Inflation of pulses as on 4.7.2009 was Arhar : (38.15%), urad : (21.69%), Gram : (-4.99%), Moong : (30.56%), Masoor : (10.51%) respectively.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.