

1	2	3
2.	Dungrapally/Orissa	10,000
3.	Baripada/Orissa	10,000
4	Mohania/Bihar	25,000
5.	Udhampur/Jammu and Kashmir	15,000
6.	Budgam/Jammu and Kashmir	20,000

#### **Remunerative price for sugarcane**

3401. SHRI BHARATSINH PRABHATSINH PARMAR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether sugarcane growers are not being provided remunerative price for their produce;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) No, Sir. In order to provide remunerative price for sugarcane to the farmers, the Central Government revised the sugarcane pricing policy by amending the Sugarcane (Control) Order, 1966 on 22.10.2009, *i.e.* by inserting a 7th criteria under Clause 3(1), which now provides that the farmers will be given margins on account of profit and risk for supplies of their cane. Accordingly, from 2009-10 sugar seasons onwards, the Central Government is fixing a Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP) for sugarcane instead of Statutory Minimum Price (SMP) being given earlier. The FRP now gives margins on account of profit and risk payable to the farmers upfront which was not available earlier under SMP.

Accordingly, the FRP payable by sugar mills for 2009-10 sugar season was determined at Rs. 129.84 per quintal, linked to a basic recovery rate of 9.5% subject to a premium of Rs. 13.7 for every 0.1 percentage point increase above that level. The FRP fixed at Rs. 129.84 per quintal for 2009-10 sugar season was about 51% higher than the SMP of sugarcane of 2008-09 calculated at 9.5% basic recovery rate. The FRP for 2010-11 sugar season has been determined at Rs. 139.12 per quintal subject to a premium of Rs. 1.46 for every 0.1 percentage point increase in recovery above that level.

#### **Introduction of Smart Card System**

3402. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to introduce a Smart Card System which would be linked to Unique Identification Card (UIC);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the existing practice of supplying foodgrains to States or giving cash payments to States or cash transfer would also go side-by-side where UICs are not issued?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) Government has approved implementation of a pilot scheme on Smart Card based delivery of essential commodities under TPDS in Chandigarh Union Territory (UT) and State of Haryana. Under it, eligible Below Poverty Line (BPL) families would be issued Smart Cards in place of existing ration cards which will have biometric features of the family members, based on which verification of genuineness of the BPL families will take place and only thereafter the essential commodities would be issued to them from the Fair Price Shops (FPSs).

Under Targeted Public Distributions System (TPDS) allocation of foodgrains to States/UTs are made by Government of India on the basis of 1993-94 poverty estimates of Planning Commission and March, 2000 population estimates of Registrar General of India. Accordingly, allocation of foodgrains are made to 6.52 crore BPL families including 2.43 crore Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families.

State Governments of Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Government of NCT of Delhi submitted proposals for direct disbursement of food subsidy in cash of BPL/AAY families on pilot basis in five district, namely, Lakhimpur Kheri and Hardoi in Uttar Pradesh, Panchkula and Jhajjar in Haryana and Central District in Delhi, instead of distribution of foodgrains to them under TPDS. Based on those proposals, a draft scheme has been prepared to test the feasibility of this alternative mode of transfer of food subsidy to BPL/AAY families under TPDS.

Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) has proposed Aadhaar based reforms in Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS). In this connection, a Task Force has been constituted with the responsibility of working out the modalities of the existing projects including the Smart Card Scheme and also to suggest as to how UIDAI will be eventually leveraged.

#### **Special allocation scheme**

3403. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has significantly reduced price of wheat and rice given to States under 'special allocation scheme' targeted at Above Poverty Line families;

(b) whether under special allocation scheme each APL family was normally allocated 10 kgs. of foodgrains per head per month over and above allocation made under targeted PDS;

(c) whether this scheme was launched in January, 2010 and the special scheme was in addition to Targeted Public Distribution System; and