Distribution of foodgrains

*153. 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 the NAC has created two new Categories, setting aside BPL criteria for distribution of foodgrains under the National Food Security Scheme;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the total number of people going to be benefited from the above recommendation, State-wise; and
 - (d) the burden on Government in the form of subsidy, etc.?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (d) The National Advisory Council (NAC) in its meeting held on 23.10.2010 has recommended, inter alia, that priority households should have a monthly entitlement of 35 kgs (equivalent to 7 kgs. per person) at a subsidised price of Re. 1 per kg. for millets, Rs. 2 for wheat and Rs. 3 for rice and that general households should have a monthly entitlement of 20 kgs. (equivalent to 4 kgs. per person) at a price not exceeding 50% of the current Minimum Support Price for millets, wheat and rice.

NAC has recommended that the legal entitlements to subsidised foodgrains should be extended to at least 75% of the country's population - 90% in rural areas and 50% in urban areas. However, NAC has not given any State-wise break-up of the people to be benefited.

The additional subsidy required to implement the above proposal has been worked out by NAC as Rs. 23,231 crore.

Specially reserved coaches for disabled passengers

- *154. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether reserved coaches for disabled passengers have been restored;
- (b) the trains which currently have the facility of specially reserved coaches for the disabled and the details thereof; and