

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
20.	Maharashtra	0	4	6	12	31.03.2010
21.	Manipur	1	0	0	1	31.12.2008
22.	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	30.06.2009
23.	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	08.03.2010
24.	Nagaland	0	0	0	0	31.12.2008
25.	Orissa	0	0	7	12	31.08.2010
26.	Puducherry	0	1	0	1	30.09.2010
27.	Punjab	0	0	2	1	30.09.2010
28.	Rajasthan	0	0	5	10	30.09.2010
29.	Sikkim	0	1	0	0	14.06.2010
30.	Tamil Nadu	0	0	0	3	30.09.2010
31.	Tripura	0	0	0	0	31.10.2010
32.	Uttar Pradesh	0	0	13	31	30.06.2010
33.	Uttarakhand	0	0	0	6	30.09.2010
34.	West Bengal	0	0	0	0	31.03.2010
TOTAL:		2	16	60	210	

Alternative institution to handle food distribution

1910. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to allow institutions with better capacity to handle food distribution;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has received any proposal in this regard; and

(d) whether it has been opined that rotting grains violate the sanctity of food and the people right to it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) With a view to specifically target poor sections of society for distribution of subsidized foodgrains

(rice, wheat and coarse grains) and sugar, Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) was launched in 1997. TPDS is operated under the joint responsibility of Central Government and State/Union Territory (UT) Governments. The Central Government is responsible for procurement, allocation and transportation of foodgrains upto the designated depots of the Food Corporation of India. The operational responsibilities for lifting and distributing the allocated foodgrains within the States/UTs, identification of eligible Below Poverty Line (BPL) families, issuance of ration cards to them and supervision over distribution of allocated foodgrains to eligible card holders through the Fair Price Shops (FPSs) are of the State/UT Governments.

Under TPDS, foodgrains @ 35 kg. per family per month are allocated to States/Union Territories for 6.52 crore accepted number of BPL/AAY families for distribution at subsidized prices through Fair Price Shops. Depending upon their availability in Central Pool, foodgrains are also allocated to Above Poverty Line (APL) families. Presently, the allocations for APL category range between 15 and 35 kg. foodgrains per family per month.

There is no proposal before the Government to entrust TPDS to other institutions.

(d) Foodgrains get damaged due to various reasons such as storage pest attack, leakages in godowns, procurement of poor quality stocks, during movement of stocks, exposure to rains, floods, etc. There are existing instructions issued by Government for proper storage and upkeep of foodgrains. Government has reiterated these instructions and directed Food Corporation of India (FCI) as well as State Governments/agencies to monitor effectively observance of these steps and ensure proper storage of foodgrains. However, this Department is not in receipt of opinion that rotting grains violate the sanctity of food and the people right to it.

Food management system

1911. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether despite record grains production in the country and sufficient stocks with Government, archaic rules continue to hinder effective food management system;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether the disbursement of grains to State Governments through PDS is based on any formula;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Union Government has adopted any flexibility in the rules of formula to quickly release foodgrains to State Governments; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?