

1	2	3	4
17.	Manipur	125.286	166.724
18.	Meghalaya	156.256	210.368
19.	Mizoram *	86.248	83.181
20.	Nagaland	135.586	150.518
21.	Orissa	2251.672	2665.960
22.	Punjab	1293.440	965.973
23.	Rajasthan	2122.804	2664.726
24.	Sikkim	46.320	51.179
25.	Tamil Nadu	4045.472	4527.511
26.	Tripura	316.444	346.787
27.	Uttar Pradesh	7562.724	8547.875
28.	Uttarakhand	460.382	548.683
29.	West Bengal	3607.004	4448.729
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	33.579	38.693
31.	Chandigarh	29.856	40.502
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	9.600	12.309
33.	Daman and Diu	4.830	5.726
34.	Lakshadweep	4.834	5.211
35.	Puducherry	58.192	69.401
TOTAL		51,210.237	58,517.508

*The higher allocation for Haryana and Madhya Pradesh during 2009-10 was due to incentive based additional allocations and for Mizoram due to situation arising out of bamboo flowering.

Decrease in BPL card holders

1913. DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been decrease in the number of BPL card holders;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there is any plan to expand the BPL system to more people by removing unreasonable criterion; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) Planning Commission is the nodal agency of the Government of India for estimating poverty at national and state levels. For allocation of foodgrains (wheat and rice) to States and Union Territories (UTs) under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), Department of Food and Public Distribution uses the number of Below Poverty Line (BPL) families based on 1993-94 poverty estimates of Planning Commission and the population estimates of the Registrar General of India as on 1st March, 2000 or the number of such families actually identified and ration cards issued to them by the State/UT Governments, whichever is less. As per 1993-94 poverty estimates, the percentage of population living below poverty line at all India level is 36%.

As per these estimates, the number of BPL families is 6.52 crore, which includes about 2.44 crore Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families. However, some State/UT Governments have reported the issuance of ration cards to BPL families at variance with the accepted number of BPL families.

The guidelines for identification of BPL families in rural areas are issued by the Ministry of Rural Development. In association with States/UTs, the Ministry of Rural Development conducts the BPL Census to identify rural households living below the poverty line.

Ministry of Rural Development constituted an Expert Group to suggest methodology for conducting the next BPL census in rural areas. The Expert Group under the Chairmanship of Dr. N.C. Saxena submitted its Report.

For urban areas, an expert group has been constituted by the Planning Commission to recommend a common methodology for identification of BPL households in the urban areas.

Foodgrains destroyed in Government storages

1914. SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of foodgrains damaged and/or destroyed in the Government stockyards or otherwise in the country, during the last three years, State-wise and year-wise;

(b) whether Supreme Court has expressed its concern over the matter and advised Government to distribute these foodgrains free to the poor;

(c) how Government has responded to the situation; and