

Universalization of PDS

*376. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken for universalization of the Public Distribution System (PDS) and for arranging to provide 36 kg rice per month at the rate of Rs. 2 per kg. to all the families; and

(b) by when Government is going to provide 14 essential articles at subsidized rate through PDS?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) was launched in 1997 with a view to specifically target poor sections of society. There is no proposal at present to universalize the TPDS. Under the TPDS, Department of Food and Public Distribution allocates foodgrains (rice and wheat) @ 35 kg. per family per month to 6.52 crore accepted number of Below Poverty Line (BPL) families, which includes about 2.44 crore Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families. Allocations of foodgrains to Above Poverty Line (APL) families are made depending upon the availability of foodgrains in the central pool and past offtake. Presently, the allocation of foodgrains to APL families ranges between 15 kg. and 35 kg. per family per month. Central Government allocates foodgrains under TPDS to States/UTs for distribution to BPL, AAY and APL families at Central Issue Prices (CIP) given below:—

(Rs. per kg.)					
APL		BPL		AAY	
Wheat	Rice (Gr.A)	Wheat	Rice (Com./Gr.A)	Wheat	Rice (Com./Gr.A)
6.10	8.30	4.15	5.65	2.00	3.00

In addition to rice and wheat, presently sugar and kerosene are also being allocated to the States/UTs. States/UTs have been advised to allow Fair Price Shop (FPS) licensees to enlarge the basket of commodities by allowing sale of non-PDS items of daily use as per local requirement. The non-PDS items being sold by some State/UT Governments include pulses, edible oils, iodised salt, spices, etc.

Achievements of projects under RGGVY

*377. SHRIMATI NAZNIN FARUQUE: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the achievements of various projects under the Rajiv Gandhi Grameen

Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY) in various States, including Assam, alongwith the village electrification infrastructure created thereunder;

(b) how many villages have been electrified under the projects, during the last three years;

(c) by when the scheme would be completed in Assam; and

(d) what are the targets fixed for the Eleventh Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): In addition to rice and wheat, presently sugar and kerosene are also being allocated to the States/UTs. States/UTs have been advised to allow Fair Price Shop (FPS) licensees to enlarge the basket of commodities by allowing sale of non-PDS items of daily use as per local requirement. The non-PDS items being sold by some State/UT Governments include pulses, edible oils, iodised salt, spices, etc.

(a) Under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY), 576 projects targeting electrification of 1.10 lakh un/de-electrified (UE) villages and release of electricity connections to 2.33 crore BPL households were sanctioned in the country. As on 15.08.2011, the rural electrification infrastructure consisting of LT lines, HT lines and Distribution Transformers has been created for 98,715 UE villages and 169.53 lakh free connections to BPL households have been released. 408 new 33/11 KV sub-stations have been commissioned under RGGVY. The details of achievements of projects sanctioned under RGGVY, State-wise, including Assam are given in Statement (See below).

(b) The villages have been electrified under RGGVY during the last three years are as under:—

Year	Un/de-electrified villages
2008-09	12056
2009-10	18374
2010-11	18306
TOTAL :	48736

(c) The electrification works for the sanctioned projects under RGGVY in the State of Assam are expected to be completed by the year 2012.

(d) Under RGGVY, for Eleventh Plan, it is targeted to electrify 73,500 un/de-electrified villages and release of electricity connections to 197 lakh BPL households. During Eleventh Plan, as on 15.8.2011, the electrification works in 60,190 un de-electrified villages have been completed and connections to 162.81 lakh BPL households have been released.

Statement

State-wise details of achievements under RGGVY

As on 15.08.2011

Sl. No.	Name of State	Un/de-electrified villages	Release of BPL connections	Nos. of new 33/11 KV sub-stations commissioned under RGGVY
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh*	0	2648099	11
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	919	17980	1
3.	Assam	6848	661602	12
4.	Bihar	21278	1802029	84
5.	Chhattisgarh	249	461704	1
6.	Gujarat*	0	749182	0
7.	Haryana*	0	201634	0
8.	Himachal Pradesh	30	6673	0
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	120	37105	3
10.	Jharkhand	17343	1192619	75
11.	Karnataka	61	813884	1
12.	Kerala*	0	17238	0
13.	Madhya Pradesh	394	484251	4
14.	Maharashtra*	0	1100974	3
15.	Manipur	307	11518	0
16.	Meghalaya	151	36295	0
17.	Mizoram	62	10837	0
18.	Nagaland	72	23415	0
19.	Odisha	13429	2396306	4
20.	Punjab*	0	48397	0

1	2	3	4	5
21.	Rajasthan	3874	992333	2
22.	Sikkim	23	8240	0
23.	Tamil Nadu*	0	498883	0
24.	Tripura	116	68658	1
25.	Uttar Pradesh	27759	872372	194
26.	Uttarakhand	1511	227573	2
27.	West Bengal	4169	1564117	10
TOTAL:		98715	16953918	408

*In the States of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Kerala, Punjab, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu, all the villages were electrified prior to launch of RGGVY. As such no un/de-electrified village are proposed in the DPR. However, intensive electrification work of partly electrified villages have been taken in these States.

Arrangement of food stock

†*378. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Central and State rules for proper management of stocks of food items to contain price hike thereof;

(b) whether there is any proposal under consideration to amend the rules/regulations governing import of food items;

(c) the details of mechanism adopted to assess the loss of crops due to natural disaster or failure of monsoon; and

(d) the details of the procedure adopted by Government to determine buffer stock to control the shortage of food items in the market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The enforcement of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 lies with the State Governments/Union Territories. State Governments are empowered to fix stock limit for management of food items. The State Governments/UT Administrations have been delegated powers to take necessary action under the provisions of both "The Essential Commodities Act, 1955" and "The Prevention of Blackmarketing and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.