

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2.	Lakshadweep					2500
	East					
1.	Orissa			9170		
2.	Jharkhand					825
	North East					
1.	Mizoram	4590				
2.	Tripura		2500			
3.	Assam	7500			5000	
TOTAL		17090	2500	9170	5000	3325

Sale of consumer products in standard size

498. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has issued a notification recently that with effect from July 1, 2012, consumer products will have to be sold only in specified standard sizes;

(b) whether it is also a fact that, for five long years, consumers have been made to pay more prices than what they were paying earlier by deceptive means; and

(c) whether this notification would check that consumers are not cheated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) Yes Sir, it is true that a Notification was issued by the Government vide GSR 784 (E) dated 24th October, 2011, under which 19 commodities mentioned in the second schedule of Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 2011 will be sold in the standard pack sizes from 1st July, 2012. After receiving feedback the flexibility in package sizes, is leaving scope for misleading consumers, the Government has issued this notification to enable consumers the facility of easy comparison.

However, it is not true that consumer were paying more price by deceptive means, but these the manufacturers/packers were allowed freedom of size.

Amendment in Food Security Bill

†499. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has made an amendment again in

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

the previous draft of National Food Security Bill and has decided to increase the number of the beneficiaries under the Bill;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any basis has been determined to select the beneficiaries under this scheme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) The National Food Security Bill was introduced in the Lok Sabha on 22nd December, 2011. The Bill has been referred to the Standing Committee on Food, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution for examination. The Bill seeks to cover upto 75% of the rural population (with at least 46% belonging to the priority households) and upto 50% of the urban population (with at least 28% belonging to the priority households) for receiving subsidized foodgrains under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS). No amendment in the Bill introduced in the Lok Sabha has been proposed by the Government.

(c) and (d) The Bill provides that within the State-wise number of persons belonging to the priority households and general households, determined by the Central Government, identification of households shall be done by the State Governments or such other agency, in accordance with the guidelines prescribed by the Central Government. The Ministry of Rural Development is coordinating the Socio-Economic and Caste Census (SECC), 2011 which is surveying all rural households in the country to collect information on a number of socioeconomic indicators. A similar exercise for identification of households in urban areas is being coordinated by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation. The methodology for identification of beneficiaries based on SECC, 2011 has not been arrived at.

Introduction of Food Security Bill

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

(a) whether Government would introduce the National Food Security Bill positively;

(b) if so, what preparations have been/are being made for its successful implementation; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The National Food Security Bill (NFSB), 2011 has been introduced in the Lok Sabha on 22nd December, 2011.