

**Food security to BPL category**

1301. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has assured food security to BPL category;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years; and
- (c) the views of the States involved in such proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) The Government is implementing Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) to meet the requirements of food security, particularly for the poor and vulnerable sections of the population, under which foodgrains at subsidised prices are allocated to 6.52 crore Below Poverty Line (BPL) families, including 2.43 crore Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families, in the country @ 35kg per family per month. the Government is also implementing Other Welfare Schemes (OWS) such as Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS), Mid Day Meal, Annapurna etc. to ensure food security of especially vulnerable groups.

Details of foodgrains allocations for BPL category (inculding AAY) under TPDS and under OWS during the last three years are as under:

	(in lakh tons)			
	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
TPDS	276.01	276.09	276.78	276.78
OWS	41.41	42.11	50.10	49.06

In addition, based on demands received from States/Union Territories (UTs) for higher allocation of foodgrains based on current population and the availability of stocks in the Central Pool, *ad hoc* additional allocation of foodgrains have been made during 2009-10 to 2011-12, as per details given below:

	(in lakh tons)
Year	Total
2009-10	36.08
2010-11	80.66
2011-12	73.69

The Above includes allocation of 23.69 lakh tons of foodgrains made to BPL and AAY families to 174 poorest districts in 27 States in pursuance of the orders dated 14-05-2011 and 14-09-2011 of the Hon'ble Supreme Court and on the recommendations of the High Powered committee headed by Justice (Retd.) D.P. Wadhwa made during July, 2011 to February, 2012 as well as 1473 tons of foodgrains to 6 districts in 4 States for running community kitchen to provide cooked food in

places like city hospitals, bus stands and pockets inhabited by poor and vulnerable people in collaboration with Corporations and PSUs.

**Upward trend in the prices of essential commodities**

†1302. SHRI MEGHRAJ JAIN:

SHRI RAGHUNANDAN SHARMA:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prices of the essential commodities have shown an upward trend as compared to last year;

(b) whether the price monitoring cell studies and analyses the trends of the prices of important commodities through various sources and the information so collected and the status report is presented before the committee of secretaries and the Cabinet Committee on Prices;

(c) whether, in spite of these measures adopted by Government, the prices of most of the essential commodities have not shown a declining trend; and

(d) if so, the measures adopted to control the prices of essential commodities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) Prices of essential commodities have shown a mixed trend over the period of last one year. In respect of prices of wheat, atta, all the pulses except gram dal and onion, a declining trend has been noted, while prices of edible oils, gram dal, sugar, milk, potato and tomato have shown an increasing trend during this period. However, prices of some of these items such as sugar and gram dal have shown a decline and milk prices have remained more or less stable during last three months. The price monitoring cell studies and analyses trends of the prices of important commodities and the information so collected and the status report in this regard is presented before the committee of secretaries and the Cabinet Committee on Prices. Measures taken by the government to stabilise the prices of essential commodities are given in statement. [Refer to the Statement appended to the answer to USQ No 1299 (part c)].

**Establishment of new sugar mills in Gujarat**

†1303. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government has received any proposals from the Gujarat Government for establishing new sugar mills in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.