

its actual distribution to targeted beneficiaries is the responsibility of State Governments. However, Government of India has requested all States/Union Territories to take up end-to-end computerization of TPDS in a time-bound manner to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the TPDS. Government has regularly reviewed and has also issued instructions to State/Union Territories to strengthen functioning of TPDS by improving monitoring mechanism and vigilance, increased transparency in functioning of TPDS, adoption of revised Model Citizen's Charter, use of information and communication technology (ICT) tools and improving the efficiency of Fair Price Shop operations.

**Allocation to Kerala under BPL/APL Quota**

1268. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would increase the allocation of rice, wheat, kerosene and sugar to Kerala under BPL and APL quota; and

(b) whether Government would reduce the price of rice allocated under APL quota to Rs. 8.90/kg. as requested by the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), Government of India is making allocation of foodgrains (wheat and rice) @ 35 kg per family per month for 15.54 lakh accepted number of Below Poverty Line (BPL) families including Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families in Kerala. Allocation of foodgrains (wheat and rice) is being made to 45.56 lakh Above Poverty Line (APL) families in Kerala @ 15 kg per family per month. The APL allocation to the State was increased from 10.5 kg to 15 kg per family in June 2011 at APL issue price of Rs. 8.30 per kg of rice and Rs. 6.10 per kg of wheat which are lower than Rs. 8.90/kg. This increase has been continued in 2012-13 also.

In addition, keeping in view the demand/request of the State Government, adhoc additional allocations have been made from time to time. A quantity of 3.72 lakh tons and 2.07 lakh tones of foodgrains have been made to different categories of beneficiaries of the State during 2010-11 and 2011-12 respectively. The above allocations include adhoc additional allocation of 1.80 lakh tons of rice and wheat to Kerala in January 2011 for APL families at the price of Rs. 8.45 per kg of wheat and Rs. 11.85 per kg of rice. The validity of the above allocations have already expired.

Further, as per directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, during 2011-12, a quantity of 3648 tons of rice and wheat for BPL families at BPL prices and 1420 tons of rice for AAY families at AAY prices was allocated for two poorest districts, namely Wayanad and Palakkad which were at prices lower than Rs. 8.90 per kg.

There is no proposal to increase the allocation of PDS kerosene and levy sugar to Kerala.