

Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) lists, elimination of bogus/ineligible ration cards, strict action to be taken against the guilty to ensure leakage free distribution of food grains, *etc.* Utilisation Certificates (UCs) for the foodgrains allocated to State/UT Governments are obtained regularly from them. Further, to improve functioning of TPDS, Government has been regularly issuing advisories and holding conferences wherein State/UT Governments are requested for continuous review of lists of Below Poverty Line (BPL) and Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families, ensuring timely availability of foodgrains at FPSs, ensuring greater transparency in functioning of TPDS and improved monitoring and vigilance at various levels, adoption of revised Model Citizen's Charter, monthly certification of foodgrains at FPS *etc.*

#### **Review of National Food Security Act**

2340. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has reviewed the National Food Security Bill and proposes to revise the legislation;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the distribution of foodgrains is being made irrespective of the status of families like APL/BPL families; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the stand of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) Government has introduced the National Food Security Bill, 2011 in the Lok Sabha on 22.12.2011. After introduction, the Bill was referred to the Standing Committee on Food, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution for examination, which is examining the same.

Presently, Government allocates foodgrains under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) to States/Union Territories (UTs) @ 35 kg per family per month for 6.52 crore Below Poverty Line families, including 2.43 crore Antyodaya Anna Yojana families. Allocations of foodgrains for Above Poverty Line families are made depending upon availability of foodgrain stocks in the Central Pool and past offtake by the States/UTs. Presently, these allocations range between 15 and 35 kg per family per month in different States/UTs.

The National Food Security Bill, 2011 provides for coverage of upto 75% of the rural population, with at least 46% population belonging to priority households and upto 50% of the urban population, with at least 28% population belonging to priority households for receiving subsidized foodgrains under TPDS. Priority households will be entitled to receive 7 kg of foodgrains per person per month and General households will be entitled to receive not less than 3 kg of foodgrains per person per month.

#### **Wheat from Bihar in central pool**

2341. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether FCI has any agreement with Bihar Government to get the wheat from the State under central pool during 2011-12;
- (b) if so, how much quantity was agreed and how much amount have been paid to that State by FCI;
- (c) whether FCI has received the total quantity, as per the agreement and the payment made to the State; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) For Rabi Marketing Season (RMS) 2011-12. the Government of Bihar vide Notification dated 04.04.2011 authorized different agencies, including Food Corporation of India (FCI) to procure wheat for the Central Pool from the farmers at Minimum Support Price . (MSP) fixed by the Government of India. However. no such agreement was required between Government of Bihar and FCI.

(b) to (d) A target of 10.5 lakh tons of wheat procurement was fixed by the Government of Bihar for RMS 2011-12, against which the quantity procured, as reported by the State Government, was 5.56 lakh tons, including 0.54 lakh tons procured by FCI. Out of 5.02 lakh tons of wheat procured by State agencies, 4.20 lakh tons of wheat has been actually delivered to FCI for which due payment has been made to the agencies concerned as per existing norms.

#### **Loss of wheat**

†2342. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.