

reported that no instance of any linked power plant, which has been closed down for want of linkage coal, has been reported.

(b) Ministry of Coal/Planning Commission has estimated in the Annual Plan that the demand of coal in the country for power utilities during 20.12-13 would be 512 million tonnes (MT) and against this demand, supply plan from indigenous sources for Power Utilities has been estimated to be as under:-

Source	Estimated supply to power utilities during 2012-13 (million tonnes)
Coal India Limited (CIL)	347.00
Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL)	37.00
Other sources, including captive coal blocks	25.00
TOTAL	409.00

The demand-supply gap during 2012-13 has been envisaged to be met through imports of about 68 MT of coal, equivalent to 103 MT of indigenous coal. The demand supply gap for power utilities and the need for imports is likely to continue for some more years.

Complaints of corruption

2339. SHRI KANWAR DEEP SINGH:

SHRI N.K. SINGH:

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

(a) whether Government has received complaints of corruption in PDS including diversion and prevalence of fake cards;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken by Government to check corruption and strengthen PDS; and

(d) the role played by the State Governments in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) There

have been reports about irregularities in implementation of Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) including diversion/leakages of foodgrains, prevalence of bogus/ineligible ration cards, etc. in some regions/States in the country.

As and when complaints are received by the Government from individuals and organizations as well as through press reports, these are referred to the State Governments /Union Territory (UT) Administrations concerned for inquiry and appropriate action. Details of complaints received during the last three years and current year (upto July, 2012) are as below:

Year	No. of complaints
2009	169
2010	174
2011	144
2012 (upto July, 2012)	121

(c) and (d) In order to maintain supplies and securing availability and distribution of essential commodities, Public Distribution System (Control) Order, 2001 has been notified on August 31, 2001 which mandates the State Governments/UT Administrations to carry out all required action to ensure smooth functioning of TPDS. As provided under the said Order, the States/UTs are responsible for implementing TPDS and competent to take action against those indulging in malpractices in TPDS by invoking provisions of clauses 8 & 9 of the said Order. An offence committed in violation of the provisions of this Order is liable for penal action under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. States/UTs are also required to take action under Prevention of Black marketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980. The State Governments/UT Administrations take action against the guilty such as issue of show cause notice, lodging of FIR, suspension/cancellation of Fair Price Shops (FPS) licences, arrest/prosecution/conviction, etc. Further, departmental action including suspension, lodging of FIR and recovery action has been reported by States/UTs in respect of staff held responsible for issue of bogus ration cards.

With a view to curb the leakages/diversion of foodgrains under TPDS, a Nine Point Action Plan was evolved in July, 2006 in consultation with the States/UTs which *inter-alia* includes continuous review of Below Poverty Line (BPL) and

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.