Foodgrains at subsidized rate

3301. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a)   whether Government would provide people with 14 essential foodgrains at subsidized rates including 35 kilo essential cereals per month at ₹ 2 per kilo to ensure access to minimum required food and nutrition;

(b)   if so, the details thereof; and

(c)   if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE): (a) to (c) Government allocates foodgrains (rice, wheat and coarse grains) to States and Union Territories (UTs) under the existing Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) @ 35 kg per family per month for distribution to the accepted number of Below Poverty Line (BPL) including Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families. Depending on the availability of foodgrains and past offtake, Government also allocates foodgrains to States/UTs for distribution to the Above Poverty Line (APL) families ranging between 15 and 35 kg per family per month. Foodgrains are allocated under existing TPDS at highly subsidized Central Issue Prices (CIPs) as given below:

(₹ per kg.)

Item	APL	BPL	AAY
Rice	7.95 (common)	5.65	3.00
	8.30 (Grade-A)		
Wheat	6.10	4.15	2.00
Coarse grains	4.50	3.00	1.50

In addition to above, Government also allocates foodgrains for other welfare schemes such as Mid-Day Meal Scheme, Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme, Rajiv Gandhi Scheme for Empowerment of Adolescent Girls, Annapurna, Emergency Feeding Programme etc.

Under the National Food Security Act, 2013, notified on 10.9.2013, the priority households are entitled to receive foodgrains @ 5 kg per person per month and the AAY households are entitled to receive foodgrains @ 35 kg per family per month. The CIPs of rice, wheat and coarse grains under NFSA, 2013 are ₹ 3/2/1 respectively.

There is no proposal to provide other foodgrains at subsidized rates under TPDS.