

Food Stamp Scheme under TPDS

1821. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for a Targeted Public Distribution System other than Universal Public Distribution System;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal for a "Food Stamp Scheme";

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the number of families covered under Public Distribution System during the last three years, year-wise, State-wise and category-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) and (b) the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is in operation already in the country under which food grains are allocated to the beneficiaries of Above Poverty Line (APL), Below Poverty Line (BPL) and Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) category @ 35 kg of foodgrains per family per month. The Central Issue Price of the foodgrains supplied under the scheme are as under.

	Rs. per Kg.		
	APL	BPL	AAY
RICE	8.30	5.65	3.00
WHEAT	6.10	4.15	2.00

(c) and (d) In the Tenth Plan document, the Planning Commission had suggested that a system of distributing food stamps should be tested on a pilot basis. Every eligible family will be entitled to collect its monthly quota of food stamps from a designated distribution center, and such stamps could then be used to buy food grains from any food shop. Accordingly the Finance Minister in the Budget Speech 2004-05 has proposed the introduction of food stamps for the poor on a pilot basis.

(e) A Statement is annexed.

Statement

State-wise, year-wise and category-wise number of families covered under PDS
(in lakhs)

STATE/UT	NUMBER OF RATION CARDS						
	2001		2002		2003		AAY
	APL	BPL*	APL	BPL*	APL	BPL	
Andhra Pradesh	53.97	113.60	53.97	105.05	53.97	98.82	6.23
Arunachal Pradesh	2.73	0.95	2.73	0.99	2.65	0.84	0.15
Assam	25.72	18.84	34.45	18.94	34.45	16.01	2.81
Bihar	88.74	84.26	52.20	71.63	52.20	61.64	10.00
Chhattisgarh			24.81	20.99	25.94	14.86	4.31
Delhi	36.55	N.A.	34.04	3.34	34.00	4.06	0.31
Goa	3.04	0.13	3.00	0.23	2.96	0.24	0.06
Gujarat	72.83	33.75	71.64	35.64	65.53	32.78	11.36
Haryana	37.68	5.54	36.61	7.99	36.80	6.89	1.14
Himachal Pradesh	9.30	3.11	10.40	2.98	10.49	2.12	0.80
Jammu&Kashmir	10.12	3.36	10.94	7.36	10.94	6.23	1.13
Jharkhand			5.15	23.94	5.15	20.28	3.68
Karnataka	49.43	63.26	46.71	63.87	47.24	60.32	4.80
Kerala	43.05	20.40	43.61	20.29	43.16	17.44	2.72
Madhya Pradesh	134.18	43.65	82.28	56.71	82.27	45.73	6.31
Maharashtra	139.45	56.70	143.20	74.72	144.84	64.45	10.02
Manipur	1.13	0.67	1.89	1.30	1.89	1.03	0.25
Meghalaya	0.98	0.97	1.07	1.83	1.07	1.55	0.28
Mizoram	1.62	0.68	1.71	0.66	1.61	0.58	0.10
Nagaland	1.05	0.96	1.95	1.24	0.75	1.05	0.19
Orissa	39.85	41.23	30.61	48.41	30.61	43.35	5.05
Punjab	50.10	5.02	48.19	7.04	47.55	6.42	0.72
Rajasthan	81.36	22.87	96.47	22.60	96.65	19.07	3.73
Sikkim	0.66	(APL+BPL)	0.89	0.37	0.89	0.30	0.07
Tamil Nadu**	95.50	65.51		168.30	161.14	(APL+BPL)	7.16
Tripura	4.50	2.28	4.18	2.95	4.21	2.50	0.45
Uttar Pradesh	159.96	95.48	274.00	106.79	274.00	90.42	16.37
Uttaranchal			16.99	4.98	16.99	4.22	0.76
West Bengal***	112.07	46.88	112.44	48.92	112.81	41.46	5.84
Andaman & Nicobar	0.74	0.12	0.71	0.15	0.71	0.11	0.04
Chandigarh	2.12	0.00	2.16	0.13	2.18	0.05	0.02
D&N Haveli	0.17	0.16	0.17	0.16	0.17	0.13	0.03
Daman & Diu	0.28	0.02	0.27	0.04	0.25	0.03	0.01
Lakshadweep	0.13	N.A.	0.13	0.01	0.13	0.01	0.00
Pondicherry	1.72	0.95	1.77	0.96	1.81	0.87	0.10
TOTAL	1260.73	731.35	1251.34	929.71	1410.01	665.86	106.98

Note: *Includes AAY ration cards

**Separate figures of APL/BPL cards in Tamil Nadu are not available as there is no categorization of APL/BPL in the States

***The State Govt. has issued individual ration cards.

5 individual ration cards have been taken as one family card.