

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 555
TO BE ANSWERED ON 5TH FEBRUARY, 2021

AVAILABILITY OF FOODGRAINS FOR EWS

555 SHRI BIKASH RANJAN:

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

the steps which have been taken by Government to ensure the benefits under food and public distribution to each and every citizen particularly the families having income less than ₹ 20,000 per month?

A N S W E R
MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD &
PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB DADARAO)

(a): Department of Food & Public Distribution makes allocation of foodgrains(wheat and rice) to the States/UTs under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) in terms of National Food Security Act(NFSA), 2013.

The Act provides for coverage of about 75% of the rural and 50% of the urban population (67% of the total population of the country) for receiving highly subsidized foodgrains under TPDS, which at Census 2011 comes to about 81.35 crore. Coverage under the Act is under two categories- households covered under Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) to the extent specified by the Central Government and the remaining households as priority households to be identified by the State Governments/ Union Territories (UT) Administrations as per criteria evolved by them, within the coverage determined for the State/UT. Under the Act, households covered under AAY are entitled to receive 35 kg of foodgrains per household per month at Rs. 1/2/3 per kg for coarsegrains/ wheat/ rice respectively, under the Act. The priority households are entitled to receive 5 kg of foodgrains per person per month at the above prices. At present, the Act is being implemented in all the States/UTs and covers about 79.37 crore persons for receiving highly subsidized foodgrains. The Coverage under the Act is substantially high to ensure that all the vulnerable and needy sections of the society get its benefit.

NFSA is operated under the joint responsibility of the Central and the State/UT Govt. Central Govt is responsible for allocation and transportation of foodgrains upto the designated depots of the FCI. The operational responsibilities for allocation of foodgrains within the States/UTs, identification of eligible beneficiaries, issuance of ration cards to them, distribution of foodgrains to eligible beneficiaries rest with the concerned State/UT Govt.
