

Seventeenth Lok Sabha

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Title: Need to take steps to cover more population under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) in the state of Andhra Pradesh.

**SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA VISWANATH (KAKINADA):** Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity. With respect to Andhra Pradesh, the number of persons covered under the Targeted Public Distribution System is 2.68 crore which is 61 per cent of the rural population and 41 per cent of the urban population. This is grossly inadequate considering the fact that, at the national level, 75 per cent of the rural population and 50 per cent of the urban population are covered under TPDS.

This has resulted in a large number of needy and deserving persons being uncovered.

**HON. CHAIRPERSON :** Make your point quickly.

... (*Interruptions*)

**SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA VISWANATH:** Close to 56 lakh additional families are covered by the Public Distribution Scheme being implemented by the State Government.

The State Government is being overburdened due to this matter. I would request that the data of the State be revisited and corrected.

**माननीय सभापति :** मेरा फिर अनुरोध है कि आप कृपया अपनी-अपनी सीट्स पर वापस जाइए।

... (*Interruptions*)

**माननीय सभापति :** अगर आप कुछ बोलना चाहेंगे तो मैं आपको अवसर देने के लिए तैयार हूँ। Please call back your fellow Members to their seats.

... (*Interruptions*)

**SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA VISWANATH :** I urge the Central Government that a comprehensive view be taken on the poverty level in the State, wider coverage of the population of Andhra Pradesh under TPDS be ensured, and the anomaly be corrected.

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** Please go back to your seats.

... (*Interruptions*)

**SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA VISWANATH :** Therefore, I would request the honourable Union Minister, Shri Piyush Goyal to understand the plight of the people of Andhra Pradesh. ... (*Interruptions*)