

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:95  
ANSWERED ON:24.11.2000  
NEW SCHEME FOR BPL  
SANJAY PASWAN;TRILOCHAN KANUNGO

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

- (a) whether the Government propose to launch a new scheme `Antodaya Yojana` to provide foodgrains to people below poverty Line;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the proposal could not take off;
- (d) if so, the facts in this regard and the reasons therefor;
- (e) the steps being taken to resolve the matter;
- (f) whether now his Ministry is contemplating other ways to solve the problem of excess foodgrains stocks; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION ( SHRI SHANTA KUMAR )

(a),(b),(c),(d),(e),(f) & (g): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a),(b),(c),(d),(e),(f) & (g) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 95 FOR ANSWER THE LOK SABHA ON 24-11-2000.

(a),(b),(c),(d),(e),(f) & (g) : The Antyodaya Scheme is meant for the poorest of the poor. It envisages identification of such families out of BPL families and provide them additional foodgrains over and above the normal entitlement of 20 kgs. per family per month. Further, the rates of foodgrains to be supplied to these identified families would be lower than the rates applicable to BPL families. No final decision about the implementation of the Scheme has been taken.

The following steps have been taken to reduce the excess stocks from the Central Pool:

- (i) Open sale of wheat at reduced prices has been started from 11.07.2000.
- (ii) Open sale of rice has been started from 4.9.2000.
- (iii) The Central Issue Prices of wheat and rice were revised down-wards on 25.7.2000.
- (iv) The CIPs of rice and wheat for APL families have been fixed at 100% of the economic cost or the open market sale price decided by the FCI from time to time, whichever is lower. The open market rates being less than the economic cost, the States can avail of this offer and make foodgrains available to APL population at reduced rates.
- (v) The allocation of foodgrains for BPL families @ 20 kg. per family per month is now being made on the basis of population projections of the Registrar General as on 1.3.2000 instead of projected population of 1995.
- (vi) Foodgrains at BPL rates are available for allotment to State Governments @ 5 kg. per head per month for covering categories of indigent people living in welfare institutions such as beggar homes, hostels for SC/ST/backward students/Nari Niketans etc. sponsored by the State Governments and the concerned administrative Ministry of the Government of India. Foodgrains can now be allocated under the Annapoorna scheme to indigent old persons even in the case of those receiving old-age pension from the State Governments.
- (vii) Foodgrains at CIP applicable for BPL families will be allocated for all welfare schemes implemented by the various Ministries of the Government of India.
- (viii) Foodgrains at the rates applicable for BPL families will be allotted to the State Governments for undertaking `Food-for-Work` programmes in the States, as also for the Greening India Campaign.

(ix) Foodgrains will be allocated at BPL rates for development schemes (where the beneficiaries belong to the BPL category), implemented by NGOs sponsored by the State Governments and endorsed by the administrative Ministry in the Government of India, as also by international organizations like the World Food Programme.

(x) FCI has been permitted to offer wheat for export at a price not lower than the CIP for BPL category which, at present, is Rs.4150/- per M.T.