

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6900
ANSWERED ON:09.05.2003
SALE OF NON PDS ITEMS
RAMDAS ATHAWALE

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

- (a) whether the Government have included some more items under Public Distribution System (PDS) and also some non-PDS items;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether some State Governments have complained that they are neither getting complete quota nor good quantity items under PDS; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the remedial action taken in this matter?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI S. MAHARIA)

(a)&(b): No new items have been added to the existing list of items being distributed under Public Distribution System. However, the States have been advised to enlarge the basket of commodities by adding non-PDS items of daily use like whole-salt, tea, toilet soap, pulses, exercise note books etc for sale through the fair price shops so as to make them readily available to the consumers and improve Shop's viability.

(c)&(d): The allocation of foodgrains to all the States is made @ 35 Kg per family per month for all the categories under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS). The number of families has been fixed for each State on the basis of poverty estimates of the Planning Commission and population projections of the Registrar General of India as on 01.03.2000. The basis of allocation of foodgrains under the TPDS has been applied uniformly to all the States/UTs without exception and cannot be changed in isolation for a particular States/UTs. Hence, requests for change in allocation on the basis of actual number of families identified/Ration Cards issued by the State Governments being different from that of the Planning Commission or on any other basis have not been acceded to.

The Food Corporation of India (FCI) is required to supply foodgrains conforming to the Prevention of Food Adulteration (PFA) Act standards to the States for distribution under the Targeted Public Distribution System and other welfare schemes. The State Governments are free to inspect the stocks and satisfy themselves about their quality before lifting the same from FCI depots. The State Governments have also been advised to depute an officer not below the rank of an Inspector to check the quality of stocks.