

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:193  
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2000  
RESTRUCTURING OF PDS  
RAJO SINGH

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

- (a) whether the Government have restructured the Public Distribution System;
- (b) if so, the details of consumer items brought under the Public Distribution System after this restructuring;
- (c) whether the State Governments have also given suggestions in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the action taken by the Government on these suggestions?

**Answer**

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

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a),(b),(c),(d) & (e) OF THE STARRED QUESTION NO. 193 FOR ANSWER THE LOK SABHA ON 4-8-2000.

(a), (b),(c),(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. A series of measures have been taken to restructure the Public Distribution System. Government had initiated discussions with State Governments under the aegis of Advisory Council on Foodgrains Management and Public Distribution wherein issues relating to better targetisation, rationalisation of prices, effective monitoring system as well as other related issues on PDS were deliberated upon at length. Based on the deliberations in the meetings and inputs received from the State Governments as well as from various quarters a series of measures have been taken.

(i) In order to better targetise the food subsidy towards enhancing the food security to the people living below poverty line (BPL), the allocation of foodgrains to BPL families has been doubled from 10 kg. to 20 kg. per family per month at 50% of economic cost and for APL at economic cost w.e.f. 1.4.2000.

(ii) The allocation for APL families has been maintained at the same level which was fixed at the time of introduction of TPDS in June, 97.

(iii) Additional quantities of wheat and rice, over and above the normal monthly allocation, if demanded by the States/UTs will be considered subject to availability and at economic cost.

W.e.f. 1.3.2000, Government is allotting levy sugar to States/UTs on the basis of projected population as on 1.3.1999. Accordingly, the allotment of levy sugar has been enhanced. In case of North East and hilly States entitlement of levy sugar has also been increased from 425 gms. to 700 gms. per head per month. The income tax assesses and their family members have been excluded from PDS in respect of levy sugar allotments from July, 2000 onwards.

Monthly allocation of imported RBD Palmolein is being made as per the demand intimated by States/UTs w.e.f. February, 2000. The basis of allotment to the beneficiaries through the PDS outlets is fixed by the States/UTs themselves.

Allocation of kerosene is made on historical basis i.e., past years supplies plus additional allocation out of increase given at national level. Possible increase is given out of the additional availability at the country level, in accordance with a formula under which higher allocation out of additional quantity, is given to States with lower per capita availability so as to reduce inter-state disparity over a period of time. The distribution of kerosene and its monitoring within the State is the responsibility of concerned State Government. Government of India has insisted upon the State Governments identifying ration card holders having LPG connections for discontinuance of supply of kerosene to them under PDS.

Government has launched a scheme 'Sarvapriya' on no profit no loss basis with the objective of making available quality consumer goods at affordable prices as well as to improve the viability of FPS. Under the scheme National Co-operative Consumer Federation (NCCF) will supply eleven consumer goods viz., Arhar Dal, Gram Dal, Masoor Dal, Urad Whole, Salt, Tea, Toilet Soap, Detergent Cake, Exercise Note Books, Edible Oil and Tooth paste in commercially viable lots after centralised procurement, grading and packaging to State agencies on demand. These items will be distributed to poor people both in rural and urban areas and for weaker sections of the society through PDS outlets, retail units of Civil Supplies Corporation and Consumer Co-operatives. This is a

voluntary scheme optional to the State Governments.