

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:35
ANSWERED ON:05.07.2004
REVAMPING OF PDS
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to revamp the Public Distribution System in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of various schemes under PDS available at present to BPL families in Andhra Pradesh;
- (d) whether any survey has been conducted to identify BPL families in Andhra Pradesh particularly in Hyderabad;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the steps taken or being taken to bring more families under this scheme and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH)

(a) & (b): Streamlining of Public Distribution System (PDS) with a view to make it more effective, efficient and accountable is an on going process. Government constantly reviews the functioning of the PDS to make it more responsive.

(c): (i) Subsidized rice scheme covering 129.12 lakh BPL families/white card holders at the rate of 4 kg per head subject to a maximum of 20kg of rice per month at Rs. 5.25 kg.

(ii) Antyodaya Anna Yojana covering 9,34,500/- beneficiaries - 35 kg of rice per month per beneficiary at Rs. 3.00 per kg.

(d),(e)&(f): A survey has been conducted in Hyderabad city within the limits of the Municipal Corporation of Hyderabad during the months of September and October, 2003 to identify families belonging to the BPL category. About 792 notified slums and 353 non-notified slums covering 2,15,176 families have been surveyed. In rural areas State Government's Rural Development Department has also got conducted a survey of BPL and APL households by Society for Elimination of Rural Poverty for identification of poor. As per the survey, out of 142.09 lakh households 78.83 lakh are BPL families.