

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:211  
ANSWERED ON:20.02.2006  
DIVERSION OF FOODGRAINS MEANT FOR A.P.L. FAMILIES  
Jha Shri Raghunath

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

- (a) whether the subsidy given on foodgrains has risen much faster for Above Poverty Line (APL) category as compared to Below Poverty Line (BPL) category;
- (b) if so, the break-up thereof during the last three years;
- (c) whether the Government is considering any proposal for excluding APL families from Public Distribution System (PDS);
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether most of the foodgrains meant for APL families are sold in black market; and
- (f) if so, the number of fair price shops in Delhi booked for black marketing PDS foodgrain during the last three years?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): The details of food subsidy released during the last three years for foodgrains distributed to families above poverty line (APL) and for the families below poverty line (BPL) and increase over the previous year is as under :

| Year | Subsidy released<br>(Rs. in crore) | Increase over<br>previous year<br>(Rs. in crore) |
|------|------------------------------------|--|
|------|------------------------------------|--|

BPL APL BPL APL

|         |          |         |         |         |
|---------|----------|---------|---------|---------|
| 2002-03 | 6280.80  | 949.15  | -       | -       |
| 2003-04 | 9950.05  | 1655.18 | 3669.25 | 706.03  |
| 2004-05 | 12580.26 | 2791.79 | 2630.21 | 1136.61 |

(c): No, Sir.

(d): Does not arise.

(e) & (f): An evaluation study of Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) conducted by the Planning Commission covering eighteen major States has observed that out of the subsidized foodgrains under the TPDS there is leakage of about 19.71 percent at Fair Price Shops (FPS) level and about 16.67 per cent of the foodgrains is diverted through ghost cards. In addition, the TPDS suffers from diversion of subsidized grains to unintended beneficiaries (above poverty line (APL) households) because of errors of inclusion. However, the report is based on old primary data of 2001-2002. As several changes like introduction of Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY), change in the scale of issue, etc. have taken place since then, it is difficult to totally rely on this report.

As informed by the Govt. of NCT of Delhi, the number of Fair Price Shops (FPS) booked in Delhi during the last three years are 75. In addition, departmental action has also been taken against 791 FPSs during the last three years.