

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1548
ANSWERED ON:06.03.2006
PDS BENEFITS NOT AVAILABLE TO APL FAMILIES
Pandey Dr. Laxminarayan;Tripathi Shri Chandramani

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

(a) whether the Above Poverty Line (APL) card holders are unable to avail the benefits of Public Distribution System (PDS) due to higher prices of foodgrains under the said scheme; and

(b) if so, the scheme being formulated by the Government to ensure PDS benefits to the APL card holders?

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 Above Poverty Line (APL) card holders are provided foodgrains under the Targetted Public Distribution System (TPDS) at subsidized rates. Against the Economic Cost of Rs.12.86 per Kg. for Rice and Rs.9.83 per Kg. for Wheat, the Central Issue Price for APL is Rs.7.95 and Rs.6.10 respectively.

The offtake of foodgrains for the APL cardholders was 30.78 lakh tonnes in 2002-03, 42.24 lakh tonnes in 2003-04, 67.28 lakh tonnes in 2004-05 and 57.01 lakh tonnes in 2005-06 (upto December, 2005).