

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3598
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2006
CONSUMPTION OF FOODGRAINS BY BPL FAMILIES
Mohale Shri Punnulal

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

- (a) Whether the consumption of foodgrains by the people living below poverty line is lesser in comparison to its availability;
- (b) If so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor ;
- (c) The per capita consumption of foodgrains by the people living below poverty line and the people above poverty line in the country; and
- (d) The steps taken by the Government to bridge the gap?

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) : The details of Domestic Production and Projected Consumption Requirement of Foodgrains are as under:

| | Foodgrains (Million Tonnes) | | |
|---------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------|
| Year | Domestic production | Projected Consumption Requirement | Difference |
| 2001-02 | 212.85 | 180.04 | 32.81 |
| 2002-03 | 174.77 | 182.73 | -7.96 |
| 2003-04 | 213.19 | 185.57 | 27.62 |
| 2004-05 | 198.36 | 188.38 | 9.98 |
| 2005-06 | 208.30 | 191.17 | 17.13 |

4th advance estimates as on 15.7.06.

(b)&(c) : The Planning Commission estimates the incidence of poverty at national and State level from the large sample survey on household consumer expenditure conducted by the National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) at an interval of approximately five years following the methodology contained in the Report of the Expert Group on Estimation of Proportion and Number of Poor (Lakadwala Committee). From the large sample survey of consumer expenditure data of the 55th round of NSS, per capita consumption of foodgrains by the persons living below poverty line (BPL) and the above poverty line (APL) in the country has been estimated as per the following details:

Per Capita Consumption of foodgrains among the BPL and APL people in 1999-2000

(kgs/month/person).

| | All India | | Rural | | Urban | |
|-----------------------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-----|
| | BPL | APL | BPL | APL | BPL | APL |
| Quantity Consumed(kg) | 11.90 | 14.13 | 10.66 | 11.59 | | |
| % persons | 27.90 | 72.91 | 23.62 | 76.38 | | |

(d) : Under the Targetted Public Distribution System (TPDS), the Central Government makes an allocation of foodgrains @ 35 kg. per family per month on the basis of number of ration cards issued by the States/UTs or the number of house-holds on the basis of poverty estimates of the Planning Commission for 1993-94 and the population projection of Registrar General of India as on 1.3.2000 whichever is less. The total BPL households as per this formula are estimated to be 6.52 crore families, who are supplied foodgrains at a lower Central Issue Price vis-À-vis APL households, as is indicated below:

Central Issue Price (CIP):
(Rs. per quintal)
Commodity APL BPL
Wheat 610 415
Rice 830 565