

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3761  
ANSWERED ON:10.09.2007  
PRICE UNDER PDS  
Gehlot Shri Thaawar Chand;Mollah Shri Hannan

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

- (a) the changes made in the quota of foodgrains allocated for Above Poverty Line (APL) and Below Poverty Line (BPL) families and the prices fixed for distribution under various foodgrains based welfare schemes during the last three years;
- (b) whether foodgrains were exported at prices matching BPL prices during the said period;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to introduce universal Public Distribution System (PDS) to ensure food security to all; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

**Answer**

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

(a): During the last three years, allocations under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) have been revised as under:

(i) the allocation of wheat was rationalized from June, 2006 on the basis of the average monthly offtake of previous three years for all the States/UTs. While for the BPL and AAY families, the scale of 35 kg. of foodgrains per family per month has been retained, only the inter se ratio of rice and wheat has changed. The allocation of wheat for the APL category has been made more realistic linking it with offtake of earlier years;

(ii) the allocation of rice has been rationalized for the APL category w.e.f. April, 2007 on the basis of the offtake figures of earlier three years; and

(iii) keeping in view the requests received from the North Eastern States & Sikkim, with special reference to their particular position, the Government has enhanced w.e.f. July, 2007, the allocation of rice for the APL category by 1.5 times of their existing allocation, subject to their entitlement.

The details of the Central issue price of foodgrains (Rice & wheat) distributed under the Targetted Public Distribution System (TPDS), i.e. APL & BPL and other welfare schemes are annexed.

(b)&(c): No fresh allocations of foodgrains for exports have been made since 11.08.2003. After meeting the pending commitments of exports, sale of foodgrains for commercial exports have been stopped from 01.10.2004 except as need based assistance on humanitarian grounds to certain countries.

(d): The Government does not propose to introduce Universal Public Distribution System in place of the existing Targeted Public Distribution System.

(e): Question does not arise in view of (d) above.