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Title: Need to conduct a fresh survey for identification of all the eligible beneficiaries under draft Andaman And Nicobar Islands Food Security Rules, 2016 under the National Food Security Act, 2013.

SHRI BISHNU PADA RAY (ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS): There is a need to conduct fresh survey and adoption of better procedure and eligibility criteria (as being adopted in other states) to identify more beneficiaries under draft A&N Islands Food Security Rules, 2016 under the National Food Security Act, 2013.

As per the Government figure, the number of families covered under the National Food Security Act, 2013 in rural area is 24, 94% and in urban area it is 1.70% of the total population of A&N Islands, which is not correct. This figure may be more as other states have covered 70 to 80 percent of their population under FSA. Due to improper survey at that point of time, the percentage of population under this Act is less than the actual number of intended beneficiaries.

The income criterion of Rs. One Lakh is very less. There are various low paid workers who should be covered. The honorarium prescribed for the President and Members of the District Forum is very less, this needs to be enhanced.

I, therefore, request the Government to conduct a fresh survey and the adoption of better procedure and eligibility criteria (as being adopted in other states) to identify more beneficiaries under draft A&N Islands Food Security Rules 2016 under the National Food Security Act, 2013 so as to cover at least 75% population and 50% population, in rural and urban area respectively.