

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION**  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**QUESTION NO 07.03.2011**  
**ANSWERED ON**  
**ALLOCATION OF SUBSIDIZED FOODGRAINS .**

1128

SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA

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

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- (a) whether it is a fact that most of the subsidized foodgrains released by Government following the Supreme Court order in August, 2010 have failed to reach the targeted people;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government has taken any steps to ensure better allocation of the subsidized foodgrains; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

(PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a) to (d): In pursuance of Hon'ble Supreme Court's observations, the Government made a special adhoc allocation of a total of 25 lakh tons of foodgrains to all States/Union Territories(UTs) in September 2010 for distribution to Below Poverty Line (BPL) families at BPL issue prices for 6 months. As on 3.3.2011, about 12.56 lakh tons of foodgrains have been lifted by the States/UTs. A further allocation of 25 lakh tons of foodgrains has been made to all States/UTs in January 2011 for distribution to BPL families at BPL issue prices for 6 months.

Lower offtake in some States could be on account of problems in absorption of the additional allocations due to additional subsidy being borne by them, short placement of stocks at some FCI depots, among others. Several measures have been taken to increase and improve the offtake of allocations made under TPDS. The annual allocations of foodgrains are made to States/UTs at the beginning of the year. States/ UTs are allowed to lift allocated foodgrains in advance. Requests from States/ UTs for extension of validity period are also considered expeditiously. The issue of providing adequate rail rakes has also been taken up with Railways from time to time.

The responsibility for lifting of the allocated foodgrains and reaching it to the targeted beneficiaries lies with the State Governments/UT Administrations.

Government of India has also been regularly reviewing the implementation of TPDS functioning including lifting of foodgrains by States/UTs by holding Conferences, review meetings and issuing advisories to States/ UTs.