

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3422
TO BE ANSWERED ON 31ST MARCH, 2023

CRITERIA TO COVER POPULATION UNDER TPDS

3422 SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY:

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

- (a) the details of criteria adopted to cover the population under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS);
- (b) whether it is a fact that the national average of TPDS coverage is 75 per cent of the rural population and 50 per cent of the urban population;
- (c) if so, the reasons that only 60 per cent population is covered in rural areas and 40 per cent in urban areas in Andhra Pradesh; and
- (d) details of corrective steps to be taken by the Ministry?

A N S W E R
MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI)

(a) to (d): The National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) provides for coverage of upto 75% of the rural and upto 50% of the urban population, at the all-India level, for receiving highly subsidized foodgrains. Corresponding to this coverage, State/Union Territory-wise percentage coverage was determined by the then Planning Commission (Now NITI Aayog), using 68th round of National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) Household Consumption Expenditure Survey (2011-12). The estimation took into account the monthly per capita expenditure of States and the inter-State price differentials to arrive at the consumption cut off for rural and urban areas for each State/UT. This State/UT specific expenditure level was thereafter used to arrive at the percentage of persons falling below that cut off level of expenditure separately for rural and urban areas. These percentages were then applied on 2011 population Census to arrive at the number of persons in each State/UT both in rural and

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urban areas. This yielded the eligible population in the rural and urban areas in each State/UT. The above methodology of Planning Commission was such that the coverage under NFSA was higher for those States/UTs, where the size of the population below the cut off level of expenditure was relatively large in proportion to their total population vis-à-vis those States where the proportion was smaller. Using this uniform approach for all the States/UTs, coverage under NFSA for Andhra Pradesh was fixed at 60.96% and 41.14% of the rural and urban population respectively. At present, no proposal for revision in coverage for the State of Andhra Pradesh is under consideration of the Government.
