

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2909
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13TH MARCH, 2018

FOOD BASKETS UNDER PDS

2909. SHRI FEROZE VARUN GANDHI:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is planning to expand the food basket under the subsidised Public Distribution System (PDS) to include pulses, millets and other nutrients given the increase in our food intake as a nation;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE FOR CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)

(a) to (c): The Public Distribution System (PDS) is now implemented as per provisions of the National Food Security Act, under which upto 75% of the rural and upto 50% of the urban population is entitled to receive highly subsidized foodgrains, i.e. rice, wheat and coarsegrains or any combination thereof. Coarsegrains therefore is already included under PDS. Pulses are not included under NFSA, though some States Governments are distributing it out of their own resources. For nutritional support to pregnant women & lactating mothers and children upto 14 years of age, the Act provides for meal, free of charge, as per prescribed nutritional standard, under the Integrated Child Development Services and Mid Day Meal Schemes.
