

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

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5940
TO BE ANSWERED ON 3rd APRIL 2018

COVERAGE OF POPULATION UNDER NFSA

5940. COL. SONARAM CHOUDHARY:

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

- (a) whether coverage of population under the National Food Security Act (NFSA) is determined as per the prescribed norms for rural areas;
- (b) whether this coverage is high in some socially and economically powerful States as compared to Rajasthan;
- (c) whether is it in the notice of NITI Aayog that Rajasthan has been facing drought conditions for longer period ranging to 8-9 months every year during the last 61 out of 67 years;
- (d) whether the plea of the State Government of Rajasthan for reviewing the coverage under NFSA has been turned down;
- (e) whether any relaxation in the current policy of formula based allocation is being considered for the State of Rajasthan; and
- (f) 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) & (b): The National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) provides for coverage of 75% of the rural and 50% of the urban population for receiving highly subsidized foodgrains. Corresponding to the above coverage at the all India level, the State/Union Territory-wise coverage was determined by the then Planning Commission (now NITI Aayog) using the 2011-12 NSSO Households Consumption Expenditure Survey data. The coverage so determined differs across States/UTs and is not uniform.

(c) to (f): Government of Rajasthan had requested to re-consider and re-calculate the percentage of population to be covered for Rajasthan. The same was examined in consultation with NITI Aayog. However, in view of a formula based approach applied uniformly to all States/Union Territories for determining coverage under NFSA, it was not found feasible to agree to this request, and the same was conveyed to the State Government. There is no proposal for relaxation to Rajasthan from the formula based approach under consideration.
