

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1320  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2022**

**INCLUSION OF MORE COMMODITIES IN EXISTING PDS**

**1320. SHRI RAJAN VICHARE:**

**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 has any proposal to increase the net coverage on economic criteria to the Public Distribution System (PDS) in the State of Maharashtra similar to that of Below Poverty Line (BPL);
- (b) whether the Government has any proposal to provide additional resources to the State of Maharashtra to make the PDS upto the universal standard;
- (c) whether the Government has taken any measures to include more commodities in the existing PDS; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**A N S W E R**

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND  
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION  
(SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI)**

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(a): The Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is now governed as per provisions of the National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA). The Act provides for coverage of about 76.32% of the rural and 45.34% of the urban population of the Maharashtra for receiving highly subsidized foodgrains under TPDS, which at Census 2011 comes to about 700.17 lakh persons. No proposal to increase the coverage under the Act is presently under consideration of the Government.

(b): No such proposal is under consideration of the Government.

(c)& (d): Under the Act, the term "foodgrains" is defined as rice, wheat or coarse grains or any combination thereof conforming to such quality norms as may be determined, by order, by the Central Government from time to time. No proposal to include more commodities under the NFSA is under consideration of the Government.

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