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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.558 TO BE ANSWERED ON 6TH DECEMBER, 2023

COVERAGE OF BENEFICIARIES UNDER NFSA

558. SHRIMATI CHINTA ANURADHA:
DR. BEESETTI VENKATA SATYAVATHI:
SHRI MADDILA GURUMOORTHY:
SHRI N. REDDEPPA:

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 examined the problem of inadequate coverage of beneficiaries under the National Food Security Act in the State of Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government is planning to revise and correct the coverage system for beneficiaries; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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/UT-wise percentage coverage was determined by the then Planning Commission (Now NITI Aayog) using the 68th round of National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) Household Consumption Expenditure Survey (2011-12), Tendulkar Poverty estimates (2011-2012) and 2011 Population Census data and uniform methodology across states.

The coverage so determined for the State of Andhra Pradesh is 60.96% of rural and 41.14% of urban population of the State, which at Census comes to 268.23 lakh beneficiaries.

Section 9 of the NFSA provides that the percentage coverage under the Targeted Public Distribution System in rural and urban areas for each State shall be determined by the Central Government and the total number of persons to be covered in the State shall be calculated on the basis of the population estimates as per the census of which the relevant figures have been published. Therefore, any revision in the coverage under the NFSA shall be possible only after the relevant data of next population Census is published.
