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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2834 TO BE ANSWERED ON 6TH AUGUST, 2025

NFSA

2834. SHRI BALWANT BASWANT WANKHADE:

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

- (a): whether the Government is planning to restore regular allocation of foodgrains under the National Food Security Act (NFSA), if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (b): whether the Government is proposing to allow the Fair Price Shop dealers to incur losses at the rate of 1 kg per quintal, keeping in view the reality of handling losses, so that they may not be held accountable for the shortfall in stock;
- (c): if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d): whether the Government is proposing to allow the sale of other essential commodities in addition to NFSA through Fair Price Shops without giving any additional, financial or administrative liability to the States/Union Territories; and
- (e): if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRIMATI NIMUBEN JAYANTIBHAI BAMBHANIYA)

(a): The allocation of foodgrains to States/Union Territories (UTs) under the National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) is made based on the identification of beneficiaries reported by the States/UTs within the State/UT-wise coverage of population determined-by the then Planning Commission, and foodgrains entitlement prescribed under the Act i.e. 35 kg per household per month for households covered under Antyodaya Anna Yojana and 5 kg per person per month for Priority households. The Act further provides that if on the above basis, annual foodgrains allocation to any State/UT is lower than the average annual offtake during 2010-11 to 2012-13 under erstwhile normal Targeted Public Distribution System, the same shall be protected, as "Tide-over" allocation.

As and when requests are received from States/UTs for revision of foodgrains allocation under the Act on account of addition of new beneficiaries, within the ceiling of beneficiaries determined for that State, the same are examined and revised allocation orders are issued as per the extant policy.

- (b) & (c): As per sub-clause (2) of Clause 11 of the TPDS (Control) Order, 2015, the State Government shall ensure that stocks of foodgrains under the Targeted Public Distribution System, as issued from the Corporation godowns, are not replaced or tampered with during storage, transit or any other stage till delivery to the ration card holder and any decision to provide compensation to FPS dealers for handling losses rests with the State Government. State Governments vide letter dated 10.05.2021 are advised to take necessary action in this regard to ensure that handling losses to FPS dealers are minimized. Any decision to provide compensation to FPS dealers for handling losses rests with the State Government.
- (d) & (e): The Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) under the National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) is operated under the joint responsibility of the Central and the State/UT Governments. The operational responsibility including issuance of licenses to Fair Price Shops (FPSs), supervision and monitoring of the functioning of Fair Price Shops etc., rest with the concerned State/UT Government. As per sub-clause (9) of Clause 9 of TPDS (Control) Order, 2015, the State Government shall allow sale of commodities other than the foodgrains distributed under the TPDS at the fair price shops to improve the viability of the fair price shop operations.
