

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

LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2741  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 2<sup>ND</sup> AUGUST, 2016

PRIORITY SECTORS UNDER PDS

2741. SHRI VISHNU DAYAL RAM:

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

- (a) the sectors/regions accorded priority under the extant provisions of the Public Distribution System (PDS);
- (b) whether there is any provision for giving special priority to the drought and flood-hit areas under the extant system and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the National Human Rights Commission has issued any directions/guidelines aimed at giving priority to the drought-hit areas under PDS; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

A N S W E R

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

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(a): Government has enacted National Food Security Act (NFSA) under which the foodgrains are to be provided to the priority category @ 5 kg per person per month and AAY households @ 35kg per family per month at highly subsidized prices of Rs.1/2/3 per kg for coarse grains/wheat/rice. The Act covers 75% of population in the rural areas 50% in the urban areas, thereby covering 2/3<sup>rd</sup> population in the entire country. However, under the Act the responsibilities for identification of beneficiaries and distribution of foodgrains to them rest with the concerned State/UT Government.

(b): Government also makes allocation of foodgrains to the States/UTs for natural calamities such as drought and floods for distribution to the beneficiaries. During the 2015-16 and 2016-17 Government of India has allocated a quantity of 30.89 lakh tons and 4.85 lakh tons of foodgrains to the States for drought and flood relief respectively.

(c) & (d): No such specific recommendations have been issued by National Human Rights Commission.