GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

**RAJYA SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2302

TO BE ANSWERED ON 12th JULY, 2019

**UNDERNOURISHMENT AND FOODGRAINS DEPRIVATION**

2302. SHRI SANJAY SINGH:

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

(a) the reasons for people still suffering from undernourishment and foodgrains deprivation even after the implementation of National Food Security Act; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to ensure proper functioning of the Act?

**A N S W E R**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

(**SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB DADARAO**)

(a) & (b): The National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) being implemented in all the States/UTs, on an all India basis, aims to supplement the food requirements of upto 75% of the rural and 50% of the urban population. While Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) households, which constitute poorest of the poor are entitled to 35 kg of foodgrains per family per month, priority households are entitled to 5 kg of foodgrains per person per month at uniform subsidized prices of Rs. 3/2/1 per kg for rice/ wheat/ coarse grains respectively. Special provisions have also been made for pregnant women and lactating mothers and children in the age group of 6 months to 14 years, by entitling them to receive nutritious meal free of cost through a widespread network of Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Centres, called Anganwadi Centres under ICDS scheme and also through schools under Mid-Day Meal (MDM) scheme.

In order to ensure proper functioning of the Act, reforms in the Targeted Public Distribution System are being undertaken in consonance with Section 12 of the Act. Some of these reforms include digitization of ration cards / beneficiaries database, seeding of unique identification numbers (Aadhaar) in digitized database, online allocation of foodgrains, computerization of Supply Chain Management, automation of Fair Price Shops, portability of ration cards, full transparency of records and putting in place of a strong Grievance redressal machinery.

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