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PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

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| <p>On 22 November 2002 the Union Agriculture Minister made the statement in Parliament "We have to accept that the PDS is collapsing. In many areas, especially tribal ones, the (food) is just not going to the people it is meant for". He pointed out that the same holds true for food-for-work and other relief measures. He noted that the Union could only give money and advice; it has no officials on the ground or even a ground monitoring agency.- The states are entirely in charge in this regard. The questions which follow may be appreciated in this context.</p> | |
| <p>2. There are certain tribal areas like KBK belt in Orissa, Baran District in Rajasthan, Thane District in Maharashtra, Sabarkantha, Banaskantha and Panchmahals districts of Gujarat which are drought-prone. The need is to provide succour to the famished tribal families and, at the same time, take suitable measures to harvest and conserve rain water as a long-term measure and a permanent solution to combat drought and hunger. The Government of India had started a scheme of supply of subsidized food-grains to STs through PDS. Now the scheme covers all families who are below poverty-line (BPL)</p> | <p>Not applicable.</p> |
| <p>3. In tribal areas, the Public Distribution System (PDS) was extended with different considerations, some being (i) to prevent exploitation of tribals (ii) to make available foodgrains at concessional rates to tribals, government bearing subsidy (iii) to establish outlets of foodgrains near their settlements (iv) assure reliability in availability. Please give a statement indicating the number and location of PDS centres in the different tribal areas of your state.</p> | <p>The Directorate of Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs is engaged to provide foodgrains in the tribal areas in the UT in reasonable price and subsidized price as implemented by the Ministry of Consumer Affairs & Public Distribution through the fair Price Shops scattered in the tribal area of this UT and the prices and supply of foodgrains and sugar is being monitored by the officer and staff of the Directorate of Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs. To prevent exploitation of tribals in every tribal area the tribal</p> |