

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3280
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23RD MARCH, 2018

SUPPLY OF FOODGRAINS TO THE NEEDY

3280. DR. VIKAS MAHATME:

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

- (a) whether any review of the rationale and structure of the PDS was carried out keeping in view the current scenario;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, whether such a review would be conducted in the near future;
- (c) whether specific interventions have been made to ensure that adequate supply of foodgrains reach to the needy and in the places facing food insecurity; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

A N S W E R
MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN)

(a) & (b): Public Distribution System is being implemented as per the provisions of National Food Security Act, 2013 and the scheme of End - to - End Computerization of Public Distribution System (PDS) Operations aimed at strengthening and streamlining the functioning of PDS. A new Central sector scheme called Integrated Management of Public Distribution System (IM-PDS) has been approved for two years i.e. 2018-19 and 2019-20 for facilitating further improvement in the functioning of PDS. National level portability and de-duplication of ration cards/beneficiaries are two major components of the new scheme.

(c) & (d): This Department has issued directions to all States/UTs to launch a special drive to identify such economically weakest persons of society 'who do not have ration card' to ensure benefits of Public Distribution System (PDS).
