

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1193
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27TH JULY, 2018

PDS IN HARYANA

1193. KUMARI SELJA:

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

- (a) whether the benefits of Public Distribution System (PDS) are reaching to the people sufficiently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, especially in Haryana, during the last two years;
- (c) the number of people who have been benefited in Haryana under PDS under BPL category, the details thereof for the last three years, year-wise; and
- (d) the steps being taken by Government to improve the efficiency of PDS in various parts of the country?

A N S W E R

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

(a) to (c): Public Distribution System (PDS) is being implemented under the provisions of National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013 in all States/UTs. The Act provides for coverage of up to 75% of the rural population and up to 50% of the urban population for receiving foodgrains (rice, wheat & coarse grains) at highly subsidized rates i.e. Rs. 3/2/1 per kg respectively. Under the Act, eligible families are categorized into Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families and Priority Households (PHH). About 81 Crore persons are presently covered to receive subsidized foodgrains through PDS across the country.

In Haryana, about 1.26 crore persons are covered under NFSA. Nearly 29.61 Lakh NFSA ration cards were active in Haryana during 2017-18. This included 2.64 Lakh AAY ration cards and 26.97 Lakh PHH ration cards. BPL category ration cards does not exist under NFSA.

(d): To improve the efficiency and introduce transparency in Public Distribution System (PDS) operations, Government is implementing a scheme on 'End-to-End Computerization of PDS Operations'. Under the scheme, digitization of ration cards/beneficiaries database, setting up of transparency portals and grievance redressal mechanisms have been completed in all States/UTs. Automation of Fair Price Shops (FPSs) by use of electronic point of sale (ePoS) devices is also being done in all States/UTs. So far, about 3.3 lakh FPSs out of 5.29 lakh FPSs across the country (including all FPSs of Haryana) have operational ePoS devices.

Besides, a new central sector scheme 'Integrated Management of PDS' (IM-PDS) is being implemented for establishing Public Distribution System Network (PDSN) to implement national level de-duplication and portability of ration cards/beneficiaries.
