

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

**RAJYA SABHA**  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1847  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 6<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2020

**CORRUPTION IN FOOD DISTRIBUTION**

1847. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH:

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

- (a) whether complaints have been received regarding corruption in food distribution in the country including in Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government to check it, State-wise; and
- (c) the plan formulated by Government for permanent solution for checking the said corruption?

**A N S W E R**  
MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD &  
PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION  
(**SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB DADARAO**)

---

(a) & (b): Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is operated under the joint responsibilities of the Central and State/UT Governments wherein Central Government is responsible for procurement, storage, allocation of foodgrains to States/UTs, whereas the operational responsibilities for implementation of TPDS within the State/UT i.e. identification of eligible households/beneficiaries, issuance of ration cards and distribution of foodgrains to them through Fair Price Shops (FPSs) and monitoring of FPS operations, etc. within the State/UT rests with the concerned State/UT Government. Therefore, as and when complaints regarding are received corruption/malpractices in distribution of foodgrains are brought to the notice of this Department, same are sent to the concerned State/UT Governments including Haryana, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh for appropriate action at their end. A State/UT wise statement showing number of complaints received in this Department during the current year is **annexed**.

.....2/-

An offence, if committed in violation of the provisions of TPDS (Control) Order 2015, is liable for penal action under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. Thus, the said Order empowers State/UT Governments to take punitive action in cases of contravention of relevant provisions of these Orders. Also, the institutional mechanism for the monitoring and grievance redressal under National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) provides setting up of Vigilance Committees, District Grievance Redressal Officers and independent State Food Commission for making the system more efficient and transparent.

(c): To bring reforms in the functioning of TPDS, this Department in association with all States/UTs is implementing a scheme on 'End-to-End Computerization of TPDS Operations'. The scheme comprises of following key components – digitization of ration cards/beneficiaries' data, computerization of supply chain management of foodgrains, setting up of online grievance redressal mechanisms and installation of electronic Point of Sale (ePoS) devices at all FPSs for bringing transparency and efficiency in distribution of subsidised foodgrains to the targeted beneficiaries/ households under NFSA. In the month of February 2020, almost all allocated foodgrains are distributed to beneficiaries after biometric authentication in many States/UTs including Haryana, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh. In this regard, details are available in public domain on central Annavitran portal i.e. <https://annavitran.nic.in>.

\*\*\*\*\*

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) & (b) OF THE UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1847 FOR ANSWER ON 6.3.2020 IN THE RAJYA SABHA.

**STATEMENT: COMPLAINTS ON TPDS RECEIVED IN THE DEPARTMENT  
FROM INDIVIDUALS, ORGANISATIONS & THROUGH MEDIA REPORTS ETC  
FOR THE YEAR 2019**

S. No.	State/UT	2019
1	Andhra Pradesh	6
2	Arunachal Pradesh	1
3	Assam	8
4	Bihar	119
5	Chhattisgarh	7
6	Delhi	81
7	Goa	1
8	Gujarat	9
9	Haryana	39
10	Himachal Pradesh	1
11	J&K	3
12	Jharkhand	17
13	Karnataka	18
14	Kerala	11
15	Madhya Pradesh	26
16	Maharashtra	24
17	Manipur	-
18	Meghalaya	1
19	Mizoram	-
20	Nagaland	1
21	Orissa	16
22	Punjab	14
23	Rajasthan	24
24	Sikkim	-
25	Tamil Nadu	16
26	Telangana	3
27	Tripura	-
28	Uttarakhand	14
29	Uttar Pradesh	343
30	West Bengal	51
31	A&N Island	-
32	Chandigarh	-
33	D& N Haveli	-
34	Daman & Diu	-
35	Lakshadweep	-
36	Puducherry	1
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>855</b>

\*\*\*\*