

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.396
TO BE ANSWERED ON 9TH DECEMBER 2022

IDENTIFICATION OF BENEFICIARIES UNDER TPDS

396 SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that under the Targeted Public Distribution Scheme (TPDS), the process to identify poor beneficiaries was flawed and consisted of certain irregularities;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether under TPDS, foodgrains are now being distributed without any flaws or irregularities to all poor beneficiaries or newly identified poor families; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

A N S W E R
MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI)

(a) & (b): As per the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) Control Order 2015, the identification & review of ration cards and/or poor/eligible beneficiaries list, identification of bogus / ineligible / duplicate ration cards and beneficiaries/households is the responsibility of concerned State/UT Government. States/UTs have been advised to undertake proper verification (including field verification) of each identified case to ensure that ration cards of genuine beneficiaries are not deleted/ suspended. Further, States/UTs issue new ration cards to the genuinely eligible households/ beneficiaries in place of cancelled ration cards under ceiling limit of the National Food Security Act (NFSA).

The Central Government has issued advisory, from time to time, to all the States/UTs to identify eligible persons/ households including vulnerable sections of the society for inclusion under the NFSA. The deletion of ineligible beneficiaries and addition of eligible beneficiaries under the Act is a continuous process.

(c) & (d): The Central Government has taken many initiatives to ensure food security of all NFSA beneficiaries and to ensure the distribution without any flaws or irregularity to all beneficiaries or newly identified poor families through digitization of ration cards/beneficiary database, online allocation of foodgrains, Computerisation of Supply Chain Management, Online Grievance Redressal/ Toll Free Helplines and Transparency Portals etc.
