

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.245
TO BE ANSWERED ON 3RD FEBRUARY, 2023

NATIONAL FOOD SECURITY ACT

245 DR. ASHOK KUMAR MITTAL:

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

- (a) whether Government is planning to increase the number of ration shops in the country for easy food distribution under National Food Security Act;
- (b) the issues which are being faced in the implementation of the scheme and the solutions to these difficulties; and
- (c) in what manner does Government plan to provide all foodgrains at the same price everywhere in the country?

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): Targeted Public Distribution System is operated under the joint responsibility of Central Government and the State/UT Governments. Operational responsibility including issuance of license to Fair Price Shops (FPSs), supervision and monitoring of the functioning of Fair Price Shops etc. rest with the concerned State/UT Government. Increasing and decreasing the FPSs in all the States/UTs is a continuous process on need basis.

(c) : In pursuance of the provisions of Schedule I to the National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA), the Central Government has decided that the rice, wheat and coarse grains shall be provided free of cost for around 81.35 crore eligible NFSA beneficiaries under section 3 of the NFSA, for the period 1st January, 2023 to 31st of December, 2023. This decision will strengthen the provisions of NFSA, 2013 in terms of accessibility, affordability and availability of foodgrains for the poor. This would also ensure effective and uniform implementation of NFSA.
