

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.208
TO BE ANSWERED ON 4TH FEBRUARY, 2025

DIGITISATION OF PDS

208 SHRI AYODHYA RAMI REDDY ALLA:

Will the Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken any steps toward digitisation of the Public Distribution System (PDS);
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government has encountered any on-ground challenges in the digitisation of the PDS, especially in rural areas where digital infrastructure is not adequate; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to address these challenges?

A N S W E R
MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS,
FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRIMATI NIMUBEN JAYANTIBHAI BAMBHANIYA)

(a) to (d): As part of the technology driven Public Distribution System (PDS) reforms, with the aim to improve the efficiency and reduce leakages in the PDS, the ration cards/beneficiaries database have been completely digitized (100%) in all States/UTs. The transparency portal and online grievance redressal facility/Toll-free number have been implemented in all States/UTs. Also, online allocation has been implemented in all States/UTs (except UTs of Chandigarh, Puducherry and Urban area of Dadra & Nagar Haveli which have adopted DBT Cash Transfer scheme) and supply chain has been computerized in 31 States/UTs. Further, for better tracking of foodgrains distribution, nearly 5.41 Lakh (99.6%) out of total 5.43 Lakh Fair Price Shops (FPSs) in the country have been automated by installing ePoS devices for the distribution of foodgrains in a transparent manner (electronically) through biometric/ Aadhaar authentication of beneficiaries of PDS.
