

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

RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2759  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2026

MEASURES TO STRENGTHEN TPDS

2759 SHRI IMRAN PRATAPGARHI:

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

- (a): the measures taken to strengthen the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and to plug leakages/diversions in the supply chain;
- (b): the number of fake/ghost ration cards detected and deleted across the country during the last three years, State-wise; and
- (c): whether Government proposes to introduce any new technology like Aadhaar-based authentication or face authentication at Fair Price Shops?

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

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(a) to (c): Under the ongoing reforms in the Public Distribution System (PDS), the ration card and beneficiary database has been completely digitised across all States and Union Territories. Almost all FPS in the country have been automated through the installation of electronic Point of Sale (ePoS) devices for distribution foodgrains. Further, 99.2% of beneficiaries have been Aadhaar-seeded and 98.75% of foodgrain distribution is being carried out through digital authentication modes, including Aadhaar biometric and iris authentication.

Digitisation of the PDS aims to enhance efficiency and transparency to ensure rightful targeting of beneficiaries, and address challenges such as leakages and diversion of foodgrains.

As an outcome of the use of technology in Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) operations, i.e., digitization of ration cards/beneficiary databases, Aadhaar seeding, de-duplication process, identification of duplicates, ineligible records, deaths, permanent migration of beneficiaries, etc. all States/UTs have been able to weed-out ineligible ration cards in order to achieve rightful targeting. The number of Ration Cards deleted in the last three years is annexed.

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**Annexure**

The number of Ration Cards deleted in the last three years are as under:

Sl.	State/UT	2023	2024	2025
1	Andhra Pradesh	52,610	49,215	50,681
2	Andaman And Nicobar Islands	47	512	102
3	Arunachal Pradesh	328	268	1,128
4	Assam	38,590	1,61,516	24,381
5	Bihar	4,49,525	16,86,266	1,49,043
6	Chandigarh	2,291	207	2,401
7	Chhattisgarh	29,108	57,371	60,496
8	Dadar & Nagar Haveli & Daman & Diu	1	151	1,101
9	Delhi	3,686	61,292	11,438
10	Goa	5,801	166	3,467
11	Gujarat	1,35,362	30,889	69,102
12	Haryana	8,49,972	3,28,557	13,43,474
13	Himachal Pradesh	7,551	9,673	7,400
14	Jammu And Kashmir	5,403	4,767	3,036
15	Jharkhand	29,771	6,374	67,730
16	Karnataka	74,401	27,105	50,594
17	Kerala	40,800	11,555	7,261
18	Ladakh	58	615	764
19	Lakshadweep	89	88	32
20	Madhya Pradesh	4,96,092	7,04,848	2,60,285
21	Maharashtra	2,01,676	1,74,342	1,33,469
22	Manipur	9,684	7,215	6,515
23	Meghalaya	1,612	449	102
24	Mizoram	4,115	2,548	742
25	Nagaland	3,177	3,924	1,347
26	Odisha	31,240	19,420	1,21,134
27	Puducherry	847	898	763
28	Punjab	1,23,722	7,520	2,290
29	Rajasthan	26,386	1,03,444	6,05,826
30	Sikkim	-	604	2,116
31	Tamil Nadu	73,875	63,905	33,339
32	Telangana	34,064	3,424	1,40,947
33	Tripura	800	467	4,334
34	Uttar Pradesh	7,00,138	8,41,123	5,97,012
35	Uttarakhand	9,691	4,589	3,014
36	West Bengal	7,56,860	5,09,952	3,74,519
	<b>Total</b>	<b>41,99,373</b>	<b>48,85,259</b>	<b>41,41,385</b>