

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1804
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04TH AUGUST, 2026

DELETION/SUSPENSION OF RATION CARDS

1804 DR. JOHN BRITTAS:

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

- (a) the number of ration cards deleted, suspended or restored during the last five years, State-wise;
- (b) whether any independent audit has been conducted regarding exclusion of beneficiaries owing to Aadhaar authentication or technological failures;
- (c) the number of grievances received on this account; and
- (d) the corrective measures taken to ensure that no eligible beneficiary is denied foodgrains under the National Food Security Act?

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

(a): A statement showing State-wise numbers of deleted ration cards during the last five years is at **Annexure**.

(b)&(c): Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) under National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013 is operated under the joint responsibility of the Central and the State/ Union Territory (UT) Governments. The Central Government is responsible for the procurement, allocation and transportation of foodgrains upto the designated depots of the Food Corporation of India (FCI). The operational responsibilities for allocation of foodgrains within the States/ UTs, identification of eligible beneficiaries, issuance of ration cards to them, distribution of foodgrains to eligible beneficiaries under TPDS, issuance of license to Fair Price Shop dealers, supervision over and monitoring of functioning of FPSs etc. rest with the concerned State/ UT Governments.

DFFPD has received no such grievances.

(d): Multiple authentication modes have been provisioned under the Public Distribution System (PDS), including Single Finger, Fusion Finger, IRIS, and Aadhaar-based OTP authentication.

In cases where authentication by one household member fails, other eligible family members linked to the ration card are permitted to authenticate and draw foodgrains. Additionally, a nominee facility has been provided in exceptional cases, allowing beneficiaries to authorise another individual to lift ration on their behalf. The e-PoS devices have a functionality to work in offline mode with limited/ no internet connectivity. The e-POS devices are required to periodically connect to the network to synchronize offline transaction data with the PDS online system.

All States/UTs have been advised that no genuine beneficiary/household shall be denied from receiving entitled quota of subsidised foodgrains due to failure of biometric/Aadhaar authentication due to network/connectivity/linking related issues, other technical reasons or poor biometrics of the beneficiary.

These measures ensure that eligible beneficiaries are not denied their entitlements.

Annexure referred to in the reply to Part (a) of Unstarred Question No. 1804 in the Lok Sabha on 04.08.2026.

Annexure

STATUS OF DELETED RATION CARDS (2021-2025)						
Sl.	State/UT	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
1	Andhra Pradesh	13,128	30,94,232	52,610	512	102
2	Andaman & Nicobar	196	950	47	49,215	50,681
3	Arunachal Pradesh	-	1,151	328	268	1,128
4	Assam	11,120	28,590	38,590	1,61,516	24,381
5	Bihar	15,678	1,61,809	4,49,525	16,86,266	1,49,043
6	Chandigarh	-	684	2,291	207	2,401
7	Chhattisgarh	10,400	20,715	29,108	57,371	60,496
8	Dadar & Nagar Haveli & Daman & Diu	2,454	73	1	151	1,101
9	Delhi	448	116	3,686	61,292	11,438
10	Goa	805	2,117	5,801	166	3,467
11	Gujarat	2,19,151	1,32,519	1,35,362	30,889	69,102
12	Haryana	-	1,96,174	8,49,972	3,28,557	1,34,3474
13	Himachal Pradesh	2,538	3,299	7,551	9,673	7,400
14	Jammu and Kashmir	33,677	2,927	5,403	4,767	3,036
15	Jharkhand	-	75,137	29,771	6,374	67,730
16	Karnataka	42,558	48,477	74,401	27,105	50,594
17	Kerala	1,04,511	41,998	40,800	11,555	7,261
18	Ladakh	614	30	58	615	764
19	Lakshadweep	33	38	89	88	32
20	Madhya Pradesh	9,93,704	98,186	4,96,092	7,04,848	2,60,285
21	Maharashtra	36,119	1,44,985	2,01,676	1,74,342	1,33,469
22	Manipur	9,411	30,493	9,684	7,215	6,515
23	Meghalaya	-	402	1,612	449	102
24	Mizoram	1,637	3,617	4,115	2,548	742
25	Nagaland	-	3,428	3,177	3,924	1,347
26	Odisha	-	64,122	31,240	19,420	1,21,134
27	Puducherry	1,731	538	847	898	763
28	Punjab	3,305	1,52,497	1,23,722	7,520	2,290
29	Rajasthan	1,35,283	2,65,390	26,386	1,03,444	6,05,826
30	Sikkim	-	458	0	604	2,116
31	Tamil Nadu	2,00,942	86,150	73,875	63,905	33,339
32	Telangana	-	4,988	34,064	3,424	1,40,947
33	Tripura	1,100	1,254	800	467	4,334
34	Uttar Pradesh	7,19,213	9,99,100	7,00,138	8,41,123	5,97,012
35	Uttarakhand	49,712	66,627	9,691	4,589	3,014
36	West Bengal	2,93,326	6,47,003	7,56,860	5,09,952	3,74,519
	Grand Total	29,02,794	63,80,274	41,99,373	48,85,259	41,41,385
