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

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3642 TO BE ANSWERED ON 08th AUGUST, 2017

DIVERSION OF WHEAT IN MADHYA PRADESH

3642. SHRI KAMAL NATH: SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Agriculture Minister of Madhya Pradesh has recently stated in a closed-door meeting that 90 percent of the wheat procured for distribution in the State through the PDS system is diverted illegally and if so, the facts and details thereof;

(b) whether the Union Government has taken note of the statement made by the Agriculture Minister of Madhya Pradesh State Government in this regard;

(c) if so, the action taken by the Union Government to plug the leakage in the Public Distribution System in the State; and

(d) whether a central team will be sent to the State to assess the situation, if so, the details in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)

(a) & (b): No such information has come to the notice of this Department.

(c): The Government has initiated a Plan Scheme on End-to-end Computerisation of Targeted Public Distribution System [TPDS] operations on cost sharing basis with States / UTs. The Scheme comprises of activities namely digitization of ration cards/beneficiaries and other databases, computerisation of supply-chain management, setting up of transparency portals and grievance redressal mechanisms and installation of e-PoS devices at Fair Price Shops and issuance of foodgrains through biometric authentication. 100% ration cards have been digitized and 100 % e-PoS devices are currently installed at Fair Price Shops in the State. Aadhaar Seeding with Ration Cards in the State is approximately 91%. Online allocation and supply-chain management is implemented in the State. Besides, Transparency Portal and online Grievance Redressal Mechanism / toll free helpline number has also been set up in the State.

(d): Question does not arise in view of the reply to part (a) & (b) of the question.