

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2881
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13TH MARCH, 2018

CORRUPTION IN PDS

2881. SHRI GODSE HEMANT TUKARAM:
SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY:

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

- (a) whether the working of Public Distribution System (PDS) in the States has been severely affected by corruption in the system leading to diversion, black marketing and supply of poor quality foodgrains, if so, the details thereof indicating the number of such cases reported, the number of persons held responsible and the corrective steps taken thereon along with the punitive action taken against those held responsible and the outcome thereof, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has undertaken a project for computerisation of PDS and introduce techniques like smart card, thumb impression, etc. and if so, the details and the present status thereof indicating the nature of assistance provided by the Government to the States;
- (c) whether the guidelines issued by the Government for implementation of the computerisation project have been followed by the States and if so, the details thereof and if not, the corrective steps taken in this regard;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to launch a nation-wide network system for tracking of the movement of PDS items to check diversion and pilferage and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the other steps taken to strengthen PDS?

A N S W E R

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

(a) Public Distribution System (PDS) is operated under the joint responsibility of the Central and State/UT Governments. Central Govt. is responsible for procurement, allocation and transportation of foodgrains upto the designated depots of the FCI. The operational responsibilities for allocation and distribution of foodgrains within the States/UTs, identification of eligible

beneficiaries/families, issuance of ration cards to them and supervision and monitoring of functioning of Fair Price Shops (FPSs) rest with the concerned State/UT Government. As and when complaints are received by the Government from individuals and organizations as well as through press reports, they are sent to State/UT Governments concerned for inquiry and appropriate action. A State/UT-wise statement showing the number of complaints on TPDS received in year 2015 - 2017 and forwarded to States/UTs for further necessary action is Annexed. Besides, this Department has also issued instructions to State/UTs and Food Corporation of India to ensure supply of good quality foodgrains under PDS.

(b) to (e): With an aim to bring reforms in the functioning of Public Distribution system (PDS), Government is implementing a scheme on 'End-to-End Computerization of PDS Operations' in collaboration with all States/UTs. The scheme comprises digitization of ration cards/beneficiaries, computerization of supply-chain management, setting up of transparency portals and grievance redressal mechanisms in all States/UTs. The Scheme also includes automation of Fair Price Shops (FPSs) by installation of electronic Point of Sale (e-PoS) devices at FPSs for biometric/ Aadhaar authentication of beneficiaries, electronic capturing of sale transactions at FPSs, etc. Administrative Approval for the scheme was conveyed to all States/UTs in December 2012 and time to time instructions and guideline are being issued to States/UTs through letters. At present, Digitization of ration cards/beneficiaries has been completed in all States/UTs and 2.95 lakh of 5.27 lakh FPSs have ePoS devices in the country. Further, to identify and weed out duplicate/ ineligible beneficiaries from PDS, and to enable rightful targeting of food subsidies - States/UTs have been asked to seed available Aadhaar numbers of eligible beneficiaries/ households in their ration cards. At present about 82% ration cards under NFSA at the national level have been seeded with Aadhaar numbers of at least one member of the household. Due to uneven progress of Computerization in States/UTs, validity of the scheme has been extended up to 31st March 2019.

A new central sector scheme - Integrated Management of PDS (IM-PDS) has been approved to be implemented in years 2018-19 and 2019-20 for de-duplication and portability of ration cards/beneficiaries.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF THE
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2881 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 13.03.2018
IN THE LOK SABHA.

STATEMENT: COMPLAINTS ON TPDS RECEIVED IN THE DEPARTMENT FROM
INDIVIDUALS, ORGANISATIONS & THROUGH MEDIA REPORTS ETC FROM 2015 TO 2017.

S. No.	State/UT	2015	2016	2017
1	Andhra Pradesh	8	5	10
2	Arunachal Pradesh	1	-	-
3	Assam	34	32	17
4	Bihar	106	81	169
5	Chhattisgarh	6	9	9
6	Delhi	114	91	98
7	Goa	-	1	2
8	Gujarat	8	12	9
9	Haryana	35	34	47
10	Himachal Pradesh	4	5	6
11	J&K	6	3	4
12	Jharkhand	32	29	35
13	Karnataka	16	22	28
14	Kerala	17	23	13
15	Madhya Pradesh	17	25	21
16	Maharashtra	49	63	77
17	Manipur	6	4	2
18	Meghalaya	7	9	-
19	Mizoram	-	-	2
20	Nagaland	-	2	2
21	Orissa	22	43	22
22	Punjab	10	7	5
23	Rajasthan	33	59	82
24	Sikkim	-	1	-
25	Tamil Nadu	22	33	31
26	Telangana	10	1	4
27	Tripura	-	1	1
28	Uttarakhand	24	21	22
29	Uttar Pradesh	197	462	445
30	West Bengal	32	29	49
31	A&N Island	-	1	-
32	Chandigarh	6	2	-
33	D& N Haveli	-	1	-
34	Daman & Diu	-	-	-
35	Lakshadweep	-	-	-
36	Puducherry	-	-	1
TOTAL		822	1111	1213