

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2905
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13TH MARCH, 2018

BIO-METRIC IDENTIFICATION IN
RATION SHOPS

2905. SHRI PRASUN BANERJEE:

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

- (a) whether the ration shops have started using Bio-metric Identification;
- (b) the details of the number of people who took rations during the last three months before the introduction of Aadhaar Bio-Metric Identification and the changes in the number of such people after the introduction of Aadhaar Bio-metric Identifications; and
- (c) the number of fake ration card holders detected after the introduction of Aadhaar Bio-metric identification, the details thereof?

A N S W E R

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

(a) & (b): 2.95 lakh out of 5.26 lakh Fair Price Shops (FPSs) across the country have ePoS devices and facility for biometric identification has been enabled in most of the ePoS devices. However, Central Government has issued instructions dated 24-10-2017 that no beneficiary/household should be denied of entitled foodgrains even if their biometric authentication is not successful. ePoS devices have been installed in different States at different point of time and in some States, the process is still on or yet to be started. Given the uneven pace of Aadhaar seeding and installation of ePoS devices in States/UTs, foodgrains are being distributed electronically through ePoS devices at the FPSs including biometric authentication and non-biometric authentication. As per the latest figure available, about 50% of ePoS based transactions were based on bio-metric authentication.

(c): As reported by States/UTs, a total of 2.75 crore bogus/ineligible ration cards have been deleted/cancelled during the years 2013 to 2017.