

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 502
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06TH FEBRUARY, 2018

AADHAAR LINKAGE UNDER PDS

502. SHRI RABINDRA KUMAR JENA:
KUMARI SUSHMITA DEV:

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

- (a) whether having an Aadhaar card is mandatory for availing foodgrains from the Public Distribution System (PDS);
- (b) whether ration cards can be cancelled if these are not linked with Aadhaar, if so, the number of such cards having been cancelled;
- (c) whether a number of people have been excluded from the Public Distribution System due to the introduction of Aadhaar and if so, the details thereof including the number of ration cards that have been cancelled due to non-linkage with Aadhaar;
- (d) whether there have been incidents of deaths due to exclusion from the Public Distribution System since the introduction of Aadhaar and if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps taken by the Government to avoid such incidents;
- (e) whether there has been an increase in corruption in the PDS due to the cancellation of ration cards; and
- (f) the measures taken by the Government to allow citizens without Aadhaar card to avail of rations under the PDS system?

A N S W E R

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

(a) to (f) : As per provisions of the notification issued vide SO No. 371[E] dated 8/2/17 [as amended from time to time], by the Department of Food & Public Distribution, Government of India, all the eligible beneficiaries entitled to receive subsidised foodgrains or Cash Transfer of Food Subsidy

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under National Food Security Act [NFSA] 2013 who do not possess Aadhaar number or, are not yet enrolled for Aadhaar, but are desirous of availing subsidised food grains or Cash Transfer of Food Subsidies under NFSA, are required to make application for Aadhaar enrolment by 31/3/2018. The notification provides that till the Aadhaar is assigned to beneficiaries/households, benefit of subsidized food grains or Cash Transfer for Food grains under NFSA shall be given to such beneficiaries/households subject to the production of Ration Card, and either Aadhaar Enrolment ID Slip, or copy of his/her request made to State Government for Aadhaar Enrolment along with any of the 8 documents listed in the said notification (i.e. Voter ID Card, PAN Card, Passport, Driving License, Certificate of Identity with photo issued by Gazetted Officer/Tehsildar on official letter head, Address card having Name and Photo issued by Department of Posts, Kisan Photo Passbook and any other document as specified by State/UT Governments).

Seeding of Aadhaar number with ration cards and biometric authentication helps in tackling leakages and diversion.

In the recent past a few reports have been published in print media about starvation deaths in the States of Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh and Karnataka. However, the State Governments reported that deaths could not be attributed to starvation/denial of subsidised foodgrains.
