

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5858
TO BE ANSWERED ON 3rd APRIL 2018

COMPUTERISATION OF TDPS

5858. SHRI VINCENT H. PALA:

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

- (a) whether the proposed end-to-end Computerisation of Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) Operations have been completed, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (b) the details as what extent the e-PDS has helped in reducing leakages; and
- (c) whether any measures have been taken to address the storage problems faced by the Food Corporation of India, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

A N S W E R

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

(a) & (b): Department of Food and Public Distribution is implementing a Scheme on 'End-to-end Computerization of TPDS Operations'. Initially the implementation of the project was slow and uneven across the country due to delay in finalization of action plans by States/UTs, late submission of their proposal for financial assistance and practical problems faced during implementation of the project. However, due to vigorous efforts and constant monitoring of the project there has been significant progress in implementation of the project. Ration cards have been completely digitized in all States/UTs, transparency portal and online grievance redressal facility/Toll-free number have been implemented in all States/UTs, online allocation has been implemented in 30 States/UTs and supply chain has been computerized in 21 States/UTs. The validity of the scheme has been extended upto 31.03.2019 without any escalation in the project cost to complete the project. To Identify and weed-out duplicate/ineligible beneficiaries, and to enable rightful targeting of food subsidies, all States/UTs have been requested to seed Aadhaar numbers in Ration Card database. At present overall seeding stands at 82.39% at the National level. As an outcome of digitization of RC/beneficiary records, de-duplication due to Aadhaar seeding, transfer / migration / deaths, change in economic status of beneficiaries, and during the run-up to and implementation of NFSA, a total of 2.75 Crore ration cards have been deleted/cancelled in 29 States/UTs during 2013-2017.

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(c): On the basis of peak stock requirement during procurement season, the overall storage capacity required for central pool food grains in the country is about 600 Lakh Metric Tonnes (LMT). Against this, the total storage capacity available with Food Corporation of India (FCI), Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) and the State Agencies, both owned and hired capacity, was 735.46 LMT as on 31.01.2018. This comprised 611.31 LMT in covered godowns and 124.15 LMT in cover and plinth (CAP) storage. As such, there is sufficient capacity for storage of central pool food grains at the national level.
