

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1379
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18 DECEMBER, 2018

CASH FOR FOOD PLAN

1379. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH:

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

- (a) whether the Government is planning to do a 'cash-for-food' plan in two districts of Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of the social audit of direct benefit transfer of food subsidy in Ranchi's Nagri Block; and
- (d) whether the Government supports the idea of 'cash-for-food' plan and if so, the details thereof?

A N S W E R

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

(a) & (b): No proposal for 'cash-for-food' plan in two districts of Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh is presently under consideration of the Government.

(c): The pilot scheme of Direct Benefit Transfer on the pattern of 'PAHAL' started in Nagri Block of Ranchi District w.e.f. 01.10.2017 has been discontinued on the request of the State Government.

(d): National Food Security Act,(NFSA) 2013 provides for reforms in Targeted Public Distribution System which inter-alia includes introducing schemes, such as, cash transfer, food coupons, or other schemes, to the targeted beneficiaries in order to ensure their foodgrains entitlements specified in Chapter II of the Act. Government is implementing a scheme of cash transfer of food subsidy as per provisions of the Cash Transfer of Food Subsidy Rules, 2015, notified under the National Food Security Act, 2013

...2...

which inter alia provides that the scheme can be taken up in identified areas, subject to fulfillment of certain conditions regarding preparedness for its implementation. Identified area is defined under the Rules as State or Union Territory or any specified area within the State or Union Territory for which there is a written consent of the State Government for implementation of the scheme. It is therefore optional for the States/UTs to implement the cash transfer of food subsidy scheme or continue with distribution of foodgrains as per provisions of NFSA through fair price shops. The cash transfer of food subsidy scheme is being implemented in Union Territories of Chandigarh, Puducherry w.e.f. September, 2015 and in urban areas of Dadra and Nagar Haveli w.e.f. March, 2016.
