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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4866 TO BE ANSWERED ON 23rd JULY, 2019

INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT OF PDS

4866. KUMARI SHOBHA KARANDLAJE:

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 set to implement One Nation One Ration Card Scheme across the country, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Ministry has written to the States/UTs to fast track the roll out of the scheme, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the new mechanism will ensure that no poor person is deprived of Public Distribution System (PDS), if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Telangana and Tripura are already providing portability of PDS entitlements, if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether Integrated Management of PDS is creating a central repository of Ration cards to help national level de-duplication, if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the steps taken on the digitization of ration cards and to remove fake ration cards?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

(SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB DADARAO)

(a) to (e): To sustain the reforms brought in by scheme on 'End to End Computerization of Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) Operations' the Department has launched a new scheme namely "Integrated Management of Public Distribution System (IM-PDS)" for implementation during 2018-19 and 2019-20. The main objective of the scheme is to introduce nation-wide portability of ration card holders under National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA), to lift their entitlement foodgrains from any FPS of their choice in the country without the need of obtaining a new ration card, by integrating the existing PDS systems/portals of States/UTs with the Central systems/portals under Central Repository of all NFSA ration cards/beneficiaries thereby enabling One Nation One Ration Card system. The central repository also ensures that no duplicate ration card/beneficiary exist in any State/UT under NFSA. In this regard, so far Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) have been signed for the implementation of IM-PDS scheme with 26 States/UTs.

Further, at present the State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Telangana, Tripura, Chhattisgarh (partially) and Madhya Pradesh (partially) have introduced intra-State level portability of ration card holders to lift the foodgrains from any FPS within the State.

(f): With a view to address challenges such as leakage and diversion of foodgrains, inclusion/exclusion errors, fake and bogus ration cards, Government is implementing a scheme on "End-to-End Computerization of Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) Operations". The scheme comprises digitization of ration cards/beneficiary and other databases, online allocation, computerization of supply-chain management, setting up of transparency portal and grievance redressal mechanisms. As a result of use of technology in PDS operations, the State/UT Governments are able to delete/cancel a total of 2.98 Crore ration cards during 2013-2018.
