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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3564 TO BE ANSWERED ON 22ND MARCH, 2023

WELFARE SCHEMES FOR FPS

3564. PROF. SOUGATA RAY

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

- (a) the details of welfare schemes existing for Fair Price Shop (FPS) dealers of the country, State-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has any proposal to introduce a national level welfare scheme for fair price shop dealers; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

A N S W E R MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI)

(a) to (c): The Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) under the National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) is operated under the joint responsibility of the Central and the State/UT Governments. The operational responsibility including issuance of licenses to Fair Price Shops (FPSs), supervision and monitoring of the functioning of Fair Price Shops etc., rest with the concerned State/UT Government. As per Clause 9(9) of the TPDS (Control) Order, 2015, the State Government shall allow sale of commodities other than the foodgrains distributed under the TPDS at the fair price shops to improve the viability of the fair price shop operations.

To improve the financial viability of FPSs, the Government of India has requested all the States/UTs to take up initiatives through FPSs such as providing Common Service Centre (CSC) services, Banking services through tie-up with banks/ corporate Banking Correspondences, Banking and citizen-centric services of India Post Payment Bank (IPPB), Retail selling of small (5 kilogram) LPG cylinders, Sale of other commodities/general store items, Converting FPS into "Public Data Office" under the PM-WANI scheme etc. Further, Government of India has enhanced the norms of margin payable to FPS dealers with effect from April, 2022 as per the details given below:

Category of States	Basic margin	Additional margin for sale through point-of-sale device	Central share (Percentage)
General	90	21	50
Special*	180	26	75

^{*}Note: Special category States include 8 States of North East including Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh, Uttarakhand, Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep.
