

ORIGINAL IN HINDI

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.4642
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29TH MARCH, 2023

LAUNCH OF SMART PDS

†4642. SHRIMATI JASKAUR MEENA:

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 formulating a scheme to launch Smart-PDS across the country which is a technology driven initiative, if so, the details thereof and the reasons for starting this initiative;
- (b) the details of estimated funds needed for this initiative along with the number of States to be covered under this initiative across the country initially;
- (c) whether the Government has planned to cover Rajasthan under this initiative;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the time by which it is likely to be covered?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI)

(a): Yes Sir. This Department has approved a new scheme – “Scheme for Modernization and Reforms Through Technology in Public Distribution System (SMART-PDS)”.

.....2/-

The said initiative is for taking forward the modernization of public distribution system by employing new and emerging technologies and other Information & Communications Technology (ICT) tools to improve efficiency of public delivery, enhance the reach to beneficiaries and timely delivery of the services in a more transparent manner.

(b) to (d): The estimated cost of the SMART-PDS Scheme is around Rs. 350 crore for the duration of 3 years, covering all 36 States/UTs, including Rajasthan.

(e): The proposed implementation period of SMART-PDS scheme is 3 years; i.e. FY2023-24 to FY2025-26
