

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2861
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20TH DECEMBER, 2023**

DIGITISATION OF RATION CARDS

2861. SHRI GNANATHIRAVIAM S.:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the digitization of ration cards has helped the Government to weed out crores of fake ration cards, thereby plugging the leakage of foodgrains;
- (b) if so, the number of ration cards in the country and fake ration cards identified during the last two years; and
- (c) the time by which the National Food Security scheme is going to become fully technology-driven?

A N S W E R

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

(a) & (b): Due to the digitization of ration cards data in all States/UTs, continuous de-duplication of digital data, permanent migration, deaths, identification of ineligible ration cards, etc. the States/UTs from time-to-time have reported the cancellation of about 51.17 lakh ineligible ration cards during the period of 2021 to 2022. The State/UT wise details of the numbers of ration cards cancelled in the country during 2021 and 2022 are attached as Annexure-I.

.....2/-

(c): As part of the technology driven Public Distribution System (PDS) reforms, ration cards/beneficiaries database 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 all States/UTs (except UTs of Chandigarh and Puducherry which have adopted DBT Cash Transfer scheme) and supply chain has been computerized in 31 States/UTs. Presently, 99.8% ration cards are seeded with Aadhaar number at national level. So far, nearly 5.41 Lakh out of total 5.43 Lakh FPSs in the country have been automated by installing ePoS devices for the distribution of foodgrains in a transparent manner (electronically) through biometric/ Aadhaar authentication of beneficiaries. The Government of India, States/UTs and other concerned stakeholders are continuously making efforts to improve efficiency and transparency of PDS operations.

The Department had earlier implemented One Nation One Ration Card (ONORC) plan in August 2019 with 4 states and by the end of June 2022 ONORC was operational across all 36 States/UTs of the country. Since its inception around 124 Crore portability transactions have been recorded under the ONORC plan, which includes both inter-State and intra-State transactions ensuring the food security of around 80 Crore beneficiaries in the country

Further, a new Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) – “Scheme for Modernization and Reforms through Technology in Public Distribution System (SMART-PDS)” is under implementation to continue and sustain the systematic information technology-led reforms brought in the functioning of Public Distribution System (PDS) operations by overcoming the State level technological limitations with respect to Server, Software, leveraging of cloud infrastructure and institutionalizing an integrated Central System covering all PDS related operations across the country.

ANNEXUE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) & (b) OF THE UNSTARRED QUESTIONS NO.2861 FOR ANSWER ON 20.12.2023 IN THE LOK SABHA.

State/UT-wise report of ration cards deleted/cancelled by States/UTs during the 2021 and 2022:

Sl.	State/UT	2021	2022	Total
1	Andhra Pradesh	13,128		13,128
2	Andaman & Nicobar	196	68	264
3	Arunachal Pradesh	-		-
4	Assam	11,120		11,120
5	Bihar	15,678	1,15,260	1,30,938
6	Chandigarh			-
7	Chhattisgarh	10,400	3,97,551	4,07,951
8	DNH and Daman & Diu	2,454	3,804	6,258
9	Delhi	448	906	1,354
10	Goa	805	636	1,441
11	Gujarat	2,19,151	1,52,063	3,71,214
12	Haryana	-		-
13	Himachal Pradesh	2,538		2,538
14	Jammu and Kashmir	33,677	5,121	38,798
15	Jharkhand	-		-
16	Karnataka	42,558		42,558
17	Kerala	1,04,511		1,04,511
18	Ladakh	614		614
19	Lakshadweep	33		33
20	Madhya Pradesh	9,93,704	98,364	10,92,068
21	Maharashtra	36,119		36,119
22	Manipur	9,411	27,082	36,493
23	Meghalaya	-	90	90
24	Mizoram	1,637		1,637
25	Nagaland	-		-
26	Odisha	-		-
27	Puducherry	1,731		1,731
28	Punjab	3,305		3,305
29	Rajasthan	1,35,283		1,35,283
30	Sikkim	-		-
31	Tamil Nadu	2,00,942	1,13,300	3,14,242
32	Telangana	NIL		NIL
33	Tripura	1,100	1,331	2,431
34	Uttar Pradesh	7,19,213	8,76,686	15,95,899
35	Uttarakhand	49,712	1,57,219	2,06,931
36	West Bengal	2,93,326	2,65,293	5,58,619
	Grand Total	29,02,794	22,14,774	51,17,568
