

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2956
TO BE ANSWERED ON 3RD AUGUST, 2022**

CORRUPTION IN PDS

2956. DR. SANJAY JAISWAL:

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

- (a) the number of cases of corruption in the PDS systems across the country that has been recorded in the calendar year 2021;**
- (b) the percentage of these cases that have been recorded in the State of Bihar;**
- (c) whether the State Government of Bihar has been notified of such cases; and**
- (d) whether there is any report from the State Government of Bihar indicating the action taken by them to mitigate such cases of corruption; and**
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?**

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): Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) under NFSA, 2013 is operated under the joint responsibility of the Central and the State/Union Territory (UT) Governments. The operational responsibilities for allocation of foodgrains within the States/UTs, identification of eligible beneficiaries families, issuance of ration cards to them, distribution of foodgrains to eligible beneficiaries under TPDS and issuance of licenses to Fair Price Shops (FPSs) supervision over and monitoring of functioning of FPSs, etc. rest with the concerned State/UT Governments.

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Helpline number 1967/1800-State series number is operational in all the States/UTs for contacting and redressal of grievances and filing any type of complaints including corruption cases in TPDS.

As and when complaints including corruption are received in this Department from any source, they are sent to the concerned State/UT Government for inquiry and appropriate action.

State/UT Governments act on the basis of information received from all sources including complaints received from the Government of India.

Out of total 1869 complaints including corruption cases, sent to States/UTs, 203 complaints were forwarded to State Government of Bihar.

(c): Yes Sir.

(d)&(e): State Government of Bihar have informed that 264 Licenses of Fair Price Shops have been suspended and 126 cancelled in the calendar year 2021 in the State of Bihar.

An offence committed in violation of the provisions of TPDS(C) Order, 2015 is liable for penal action under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. Thus, the Order empowers State/UT Governments to take punitive action in case of contravention of relevant provisions of these Orders.
