

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2609
TO BE ANSWERED ON 7TH AUGUST, 2024

FAIR PRICE SHOPS

2609 SHRI BENNY BEHANAN:

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 fair price shops operating in Kerala;
- (b) the quantity of subsidized foodgrains distributed through these shops during the last year;
- (c) the measures taken to check the diversion of subsidized foodgrains to open market; and
- (d) the action taken against erring fair price shop dealers?

A N S W E R
MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS,
FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRIMATI NIMUBEN JAYANTIBHAI BAMBHANIYA)

(a): As per information available in this Department, at present, 13,913 Fair Price Shops (FPSs) in Kerala are involved in the distribution of foodgrains.

(b): A total quantity of 9.84 LMT of foodgrains have been distributed by Government of Kerala during the last year i.e. 2023-24.

(c) & (d): Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) governed under National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) is operated under the joint responsibility of the Central and the State/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, supervision and monitoring of functioning of Fair Price Shops (FPSs) etc. rest with the concerned State/ UT Governments.

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Diversion of subsidized foodgrains to open market is an offence committed in violation of the provisions of TPDS (Control) Order, 2015, which is liable for penal action under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. Thus, the Order empowers State/UT Governments to take punitive action, also against the erring fair price shop dealers, in case of contravention of relevant provisions of these Orders. A Statement showing results of action taken by the State Government of Kerala under relevant clause of the TPDS (Control) Order, 2015 is Annexure.

Annexure

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (c) & (d) OF THE UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2609 FOR ANSWER ON 07.08.2024 IN THE LOK SABHA.

Statement showing results of action taken by the State Government of Kerala under relevant clauses of the TPDS (Control) Order,2015.

(Compilation of information received from States/UTs by 30/06/2024)

Name of the State/UT	Year	Number of Inspections	Number of raids conducted	Number of persons arrested/ prosecuted convicted	Number of FPS Licenses suspended/ Cancelled/ Show cause notices issued/ FIR Lodged
Kerala केरल	2015	78505	18269	33	108
	2016	93502	24646	8	136
	2017	55781	4579	5	215
	2018	34538	2088	1	3139
	2019	*	*	*	*
	2020	*	*	*	*

* Information not provided
