

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1409
TO BE ANSWERED ON 4TH DECEMBER, 2024

TRANSPARENCY IN FOODGRAINS DISTRIBUTION

†1409. SHRI BRIJMOHAN AGRAWAL:

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

- (a) the smart measures or monitoring mechanism such as blockchain or data analyses that have been introduced by the Government to improve the Foodgrains Distribution System to increase transparency in distribution;
- (b) whether the Government has adopted Public Private Partnership (PPP) model to improve the ration distribution system and the manner in which the distribution system has been improved;
- (c) the public participation initiatives implemented by the Government to improve ration card distribution so that common citizen has greater information and knowledge about their rights in the system;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to implement some kind of 'Positive Listing' to prevent corruption and irregularities in ration distribution so that only eligible persons get ration; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS,
FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRIMATI NIMUBEN JAYANTIBHAI BAMBHANIYA)

(a): The Department continuously monitors key indicators of Public Distribution System (PDS) operations like number of ePoS digital transactions, distribution of food grains to beneficiaries, Aadhaar Seeding in Ration Cards, installation of ePoS devices at FPSs, biometric/Aadhaar authentication of beneficiaries, etc. Based on these indicators, the Department creates data analytics reports to improve its PDS operations.

(b) & (c): There is no Public Private Partnership for the distribution of the ration.

However, the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is operated under the joint responsibility of the Central and the State/Union Territory (UT) Governments. Central Government is responsible for procurement, allocation and transportation of foodgrains up to the designated depots of the Food Corporation of India. The operational responsibilities for allocation of foodgrains within the States/UTs, identification of eligible beneficiaries/families, issuance of ration cards to them, timely distribution of foodgrains to eligible beneficiaries under TPDS and supervision over and monitoring of functioning of Fair Price Shops (FPSs), etc. rest with the concerned State/UT Governments.

(d) & (e): Issuance of ration cards to eligible and timely distribution of foodgrains to the beneficiaries is the responsibility of States/UTs.

There is no proposal under consideration to create a system of positive Listing in the DFPD.
