

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3880
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18TH DECEMBER, 2024

PDS IN HINGOLI

3880. SHRI AASHTIKAR PATIL NAGESH BAPURAO:

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 aware of the prevailing issues related to the Public Distribution System (PDS) in Hingoli district, Maharashtra including delays and inefficiencies in the distribution of foodgrains and other essential commodities;
- (b) the measures taken by the Government to address the shortage of food items particularly in remote and rural areas of Hingoli district;
- (c) the current status of the implementation of the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) in Hingoli and the number of beneficiaries covered thereunder; and
- (d) the steps being taken by the Government to ensure that consumers especially those in economically weaker sections have access to essential goods at fair prices and to curb unfair practices such as hoarding or black marketing in the district?

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

(a) to (d): The Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is governed under National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013 and it is operated under the joint responsibility of the Central and the State/Union Territory (UT) governments. The operational responsibilities for allocation of food grains within the States/ UTs, identification of eligible beneficiaries, issuance of ration cards to them, distribution of food grains to the eligible beneficiaries under TPDS, issuance of license to the Fair Price Shop dealers, supervision over and monitoring of functioning of Fair Price Shops (FPSs) etc. rest with the concerned State/UT Governments.

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The State Government of Maharashtra has informed that no such delays and inefficiencies in the distribution of food grains and other essential commodities of Public Distribution System (PDS) has occurred in the Hingoli District of Maharashtra. The number of beneficiaries in Hingoli District under Antyodaya Anna Yojana Family (AAY) is 29649 and Priority Households Beneficiaries (PHH) is 683735. The Essential Commodities Act, 1955 is being implemented effectively in order to curb unfair practices like hoarding or black marketing so that, consumers get essential commodities at reasonable prices. The monitoring mechanisms i.e. Aadhar enabled Public Distribution System (AePDS) and Food & Essential Commodities Assurance & Security Target (FEAST) are in place. The vigilance committees are constituted at the village, block and district level. Also, regular inspections of Fair Price Shops are being conducted by District Officials.
