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

LOK SABHA **UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2118** TO BE ANSWERED ON 12TH MARCH, 2025

LEAKAGES IN PDS SYSTEM

2118. SHRI VISHWESHWAR HEGDE KAGERI:

the Minister of CONSUMER Will AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that 28% of foodgrains is not reaching poor as per annual report for 2011-12 of Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER);
- if so, the details thereof along with the data in this regard for the last three years, (b) State-wise including Karnataka; and
- (c) the measures taken/being taken by the Government to stop and check leakages in PDS system?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

(SHRIMATI NIMUBEN JAYANTIBHAI BAMBHANIYA)

- (a) to (b): There is no such information in the annual report for 2011-12 of ICRIER.
- Under the technology driven Public Distribution System (PDS) reforms, ration cards/beneficiaries database have been completely digitized in all States/UTs. Also 99.8% Ration Cards are seeded with Aadhaar number at national level. 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. Foodgrain distribution is operationalized through 5.41 lakh e-PoS devices, covering nearly all Fair Price Shops in the country. These e-PoS devices enable Aadhar authentication of beneficiary during distribution process enabling principle of rightful targeting. About 98% foodgrain distribution is being done through Aadhaar authentication, reducing leakages to ineligible beneficiaries and ensuring rightful targeting.