

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 640
TO BE ANSWERED ON 3RD DECEMBER, 2025

PDS SHOPS VELLORE REGION

640. THIRU D M KATHIR ANAND:

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

- (a) the details of functioning of Public Distribution System (PDS) shops in Vellore, Anaikattu, K.V. Kuppam, Gudiyattam, Vaniyambadi and Ambur;
- (b) whether farmers in these constituencies benefit from MSP procurement and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of the steps taken by the Government to address complaints of ration card misuse; and
- (d) the timeline for upgrading PDS infrastructure locally?

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

(a): The State Government of Tamil Nadu has reported the details of the functioning of Public Distribution System (PDS) shops (Agency-wise) in Vellore, Anaikattu, K.V. Kuppam, Gudiyattam, Vaniyambadi and Ambur as on 27.11.2025 as per the **Annexure**.

(b): A total of 699 farmers in Vellore district during Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2024-2025 have benefited. Further, Ambur and Vaniyambadi fall under the administrative jurisdiction of Tirupattur District, where no Direct Purchase Centers are currently operational.

(c): The Government of India has undertaken a series of systemic and technology-driven reforms to prevent and address misuse of ration cards under the National Food Security Act (NFSA). The major steps include:

1. Digitisation of the Ration Card and Beneficiary database of all 80 crore beneficiaries leading to the elimination of manual records and ensuring improved transparency. Aadhaar seeding has been completed for more than 99.8% of ration cards (at least one member) and about 99.2% of individual beneficiaries at the national level.
2. To curb diversion and ensure accurate delivery, about 99.6% (5.41 lakh out of 5.43 lakh) FPSs are equipped with operational ePoS devices, allowing Aadhaar-based authentication. 98.5% (100% in Tamil Nadu) of foodgrain distribution is now Aadhaar authenticated.
3. Strengthened Grievance Redressal: All States/UTs have functional online grievance redressal systems, dedicated 1967/1800-series toll-free helplines, and transparency portals for reporting and monitoring complaints related to misuse.

4. e-KYC of Beneficiaries: To reconcile Aadhaar data with ration card details and curb fake/duplicate entries, an e-KYC process was initiated in May 2023. So far 85.6% of beneficiaries have completed e-KYC(89.10% in Tamil Nadu). To expedite completion, beneficiaries can complete e-KYC from any FPS across the country.
5. Centralised Mapper Report Mechanism:
To ensure accurate monthly distribution and prevent misuse or over-drawing of entitlements, the Department has developed a centralized mapping system that integrates NFSA ration card data with ePoS transaction data from all States/UTs and validates beneficiary identity and monthly entitlements.

(d): To enhance the internal and external ambience of Fair Price Shops in Vellore, the State has undertaken a phased modernisation programme. Under Phase-I, 3139 Fair Price Shops were modernised. For Phase-II, a target of 5000 shops was set, of which 4514 have been modernised, and the remaining 486 shops have been carried forward to the Phase-III target.

In addition to infrastructure improvements, the State has also focused on quality and service standards. 11,029 Fair Price Shops have obtained ISO 9001 certification for quality management and maintenance practices, and 2059 Fair Price Shops have obtained ISO 28000 certification relating to safe food chain and storage systems.

Annexure**ANNEX REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) of the LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 640 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 03.12.2025**

The details of functioning of PDS shops (Agency-wise) in Vellore, Anaikattu, K.V.Kuppam, Gudiyattam, Vaniyambadi and Ambur as on 27.11.2025 is tabulated below:

Sl. No	District	Taluk	TNCSC			Cooperative			SHG			Other Co-operatives			Total		
			Part Time	Full Time	Total	Part Time	Full Time	Total	Part Time	Full Time	Total	Part Time	Full Time	Total	Part Time	Full Time	Total
1	Vellore	Anaikattu	0	0	0	21	108	129	0	1	1	0	0	0	21	109	130
2	Vellore	Gudiyattam	0	2	2	53	90	143	0	0	0	0	0	0	53	92	145
3	Vellore	K.V. Kuppam	0	0	0	8	64	72	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	64	72
4	Vellore	Vellore	0	27	27	33	105	138	0	1	1	0	0	0	33	133	166
5	Tirupattur	Ambur	0	1	1	24	85	109	0	0	0	0	0	0	24	86	110
6	Tirupattur	Vaniyambadi	0	2	2	26	70	96	0	1	1	0	0	0	26	73	99