

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1842
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11TH FEBRUARY, 2026

FAIR PRICE SHOPS IN THE STATE OF UTTAR PRADESH

1842. SHRI RAJEEV RAI:

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

- (a): the total number of Fair Price Shops (FPS) and the number of e-PoS enabled Fair Price Shops (FPS) in the State of Uttar Pradesh;
- (b): whether disruption due to poor internet connectivity in the remote areas in eastern UP including that of Mau and Ballia districts have adversely impacted the real-time data verification process at FPSs;
- (c): if so, whether Biometric failures due to wornout fingerprints, challenges of biometric authentication (fingerprint recognition) have adversely impacted labourers and elderly people; and
- (d): if so, the details thereof including the steps taken by the Government to resolve the problems being faced by the beneficiaries of PDS?

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

(a): The total number of Fair Price Shops (FPS) are 73138 and all FPSs are e-PoS enabled in the State of Uttar Pradesh.

(b): To ensure the availability of internet/connectivity for ePoS devices at FPSs in remote locations / shadow/no network areas in some States, the Department of Telecommunications has been requested to resolve the internet/connectivity related issues. The beneficiaries are empowered to lift their entitled foodgrains from any FPS having operational ePoS device without facing any internet/connectivity related challenges. The ePoS devices have a functionality to work in offline mode with limited/ no internet connectivity. The ePOS devices have to come periodically to network area to sync the offline ePOS data with PDS online system.

(c) & (d): No specific feedback or reports have been received by this department on this aspect by States/UTs and other Stakeholders. Further, all States/UTs have been advised that no genuine beneficiary/household shall be denied from receiving entitled quota of subsidized foodgrains due to failure of biometric/Aadhaar authentication due to network/connectivity/linking related issues, other technical reasons or proof biometrics of the beneficiary.
