

PRIs in Public Distribution System

3291. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry intends to involve Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) in the Public Distribution System (PDS);
- (b) if so, the details of the scheme of operation being implemented to involve the PRIs; and
- (c) the details of PRIs involved in Public Distribution, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE): (a) to (c) Various measures have been taken by the Government to involve Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) in the implementation of Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS). The Public Distribution System (Control) Order, 2001 mandates the State and Union Territory (UT) Governments to involve the PRIs in finalizing the list of beneficiaries belonging to Below Poverty Line (BPL) and Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) categories, monitoring the functioning of the Fair Price Shops (FPSs), inspect FPS records, *etc.* Further, as part of the Nine Point Action Plan evolved in consultation with States/UTs. States/UTs have been requested to involve elected PRI members in distribution of foodgrains and for giving FPS licenses to Village Panchayats and Urban Local Bodies among others. As reported by States/UTs upto 31.03.2014, a statement giving State/UT-wise number of FPSs being run by Village Panchayats and Urban Local Bodies is given in Statement.

States/UTs have also been instructed to introduce monthly certification by the concerned village panchayat/urban local body *etc.* of delivery of allocated TPDS commodities at the FPSs and their distribution to entitled/eligible ration card holders during the allocation month. As upto 31.03.2014, 23 States/UTs have reported introduction of monthly certification, namely, Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Mizoram, Odisha, Punjab, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, West Bengal, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Chandigarh, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Daman and Diu and Lakshadweep.

Instructions have also been issued to States/UTs stipulating that the list of BPL beneficiaries should be displayed in the FPS as well as the office of the Gram Panchayat for public scrutiny; notices regarding entitlements of foodgrains and their prices may be pasted in the office of the Gram Panchayats, Blocks, Tehsils, *etc.* copy of ration card, stock

and sale registers maintained may be sent to the Gram Panchayats; Gram Panchayats should be encouraged to form a FPS Committee to keep a watch on the functioning of the FPS, etc.

Statement

*Number of FPSs under TPDS run by Village Panchayats and Urban
Local Bodies in the States/UTs*

(As upto 31.03.2014)

Sl. No.	State/UT	Village Panchayats	Urban Local Bodies
1.	Chhattisgarh	4173	24
2.	Gujarat	5	20
3.	Himachal Pradesh	37	0
4.	Maharashtra	219	220
5.	Nagaland	1165	260
6.	Odisha	4287	9
7.	Chandigarh	7	0
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1	0

Rise in prices of vegetables

3292. SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether prices of vegetables, particularly onion and potato, have recorded around 40 per cent increase since May, 2014;

(b) if so, the details thereof; vegetable-wise;

(c) the reasons for steep rise in prices of vegetables, particularly onion and potato; and

(d) the details of steps Government has taken to check rise in prices of vegetables to ease the lives of common people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE):

(a) and (b) As per the latest Wholesale Price Index (WPI) released for June, 2014, the