

(c) and (d) Out of 488 District Fora where online access has been given, 413 have been regularly entering data in online case monitoring system. Rest of the District Fora will be covered during 12th Plan (2012-17).

### **Corruption in PDS**

563. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) has criticized the Public Distribution System (PDS) as one of the most corrupt sectors, if so, whether corruption is all pervasive in the entire chain involved in the PDS;

(b) whether Government gives a whopping of ₹ 28,000 crore annually to States to subsidise food for the poor;

(c) the names of States where the system is found worst/unsatisfactory; and

(d) the action taken by Government in this regard?

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

(a) Central Vigilance Committee (CVC) in its various reports submitted to the Hon'ble Supreme Court has pointed towards corruption at various levels in the implementation of Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) as well as referred to deficiencies in the functioning of TPDS such as inclusion and exclusion errors, prevalence of bogus/ineligible ration cards, diversion of foodgrains, beneficiaries not getting their entitled quota of foodgrains, etc. There have also been complaints about alleged irregularities in the functioning of the TPDS including corruption in some States/regions in the country.

(b) Under TPDS and National Food Security Act, 2013 foodgrain at subsidized rates are allocated to States/UTs. State/UTs participating in the Decentralized Procurement Scheme (DCP), undertake procurement of foodgrains on behalf of Government of India and its distribution under TPDS and Other Welfare Schemes. Difference between the State specific economic cost and the Central Issue Price is released to the DCP States as food subsidy. In the case of non-DCP States, they are provided foodgrains at subsidized rates by Food Corporation of India (FCI) and the subsidy is paid to FCI. A Statement indicating the food subsidy released to DCP States during the last three years and the current year are as under:

(₹ in crore)

Year	Subsidy released to States
2011-2012	12845
2012-2013	12574
2013-2014	14240
2014-2015 (upto 20.02.2015)	16904

(c) No comparative assessment of States/UTs regarding implementation of TPDS, based on any recent evaluation study, is available.

(d) TPDS is operated under the joint responsibility of the Central and the State/UT Governments wherein the operational responsibilities for its implementation within the State/UT rest with the concerned State/UT Governments. Therefore, as and when complaints are received by the Government from individuals and organizations as well as through press reports, these are referred to the State/UT Governments concerned for inquiry and appropriate action.

For better targeting of food subsidies, removing bogus ration cards, ensuring timely availability of foodgrains, check on leakage/diversion of foodgrains, introducing public accountability, etc. Government has taken various steps in implementation of the TPDS in States/UTs. The PDS (Control) Order, 2001 mandates the States/UTs to take action for smooth functioning of TPDS. The National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013 prescribes essential reforms in the TPDS. Government has taken up with States/UTs for implementing measures such as door-step delivery of foodgrains, correct identification of beneficiaries, improve foodgrains offtake, monitoring and vigilance, improving viability of fair price shop operations. Best Practices among States/UTs in TPDS implementation are shared for use by other States/UTs. With a view to modernize the system, the Government has initiated a Plan Scheme on End-to-end Computerisation of TPDS operations on cost sharing basis with States/UTs which would facilitate digitization of ration cards/beneficiary and other databases, computerization of supply-chain management, setting up of transparency portals and grievances redressal mechanism.

#### **Allocation of foodgrains under various schemes**

564. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has allocated/disbursed foodgrains including rice and