

Statement-III

The details of impact in terms of price reduction of scheduled medicines under NLEM-2015

| % reduction with respect to Maximum Price of scheduled medicines brought under price control | No. of formulations |
|---|---------------------|
| 0<= 5% | 75 |
| 5<=10% | 47 |
| 10<=15% | 50 |
| 15<=20% | 51 |
| 20<=25% | 53 |
| 25<=30% | 36 |
| 30<=35% | 29 |
| 35<=40% | 17 |
| Above 40% | 46 |
| TOTAL | 404 |

Identification of fake ration cards

*148. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the digitization of ration cards has helped the Government to weed out crores of fake ration cards, thereby plugging the leakage of foodgrains;

(b) if so, the number of ration cards in the country and fake ration cards identified during the last two years; and

(c) by when will the National Food Security scheme become fully technology-driven, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The total number of ration cards in

the country is 24,01,61,531 and the ration cards deleted in year 2014 were 1,01,63,498 and in year 2015 60,88,974.

(c) The National Food Security Act, 2013 provides use of ICT tools including end-to-end computerization in order to ensure transparent recording of transactions at all levels, and to prevent diversion. Ration cards have been completely digitized in 36 States/UTs and a transparency portal/online grievance redressal facility and/or toll-free helpline numbers has been implemented in all States/UTs. Online allocation methods has been implemented in 25 States/UTs and food supply-chains has been computerized in 15 States/UTs. About 60.49% Ration Cards have been seeded with Aadhaar numbers. Cash transfer of food subsidy has been implemented in 3 UTs on pilot basis namely Chandigarh and Puducherry and partially in Dadra & Nagar Haveli. Further, out of 5.32 Fair Price Shops across the country, about 1.24 lakh FPSs have been automated with electronic point of sale devices.

Import of pulses

*149. SHRI SHADI LAL BATRA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to import pulses in coming months to contain their rising prices in domestic market;

(b) if so, details thereof indicating quantity of each pulse to be imported and its import price, per tonne;

(c) the total estimated landing cost of these imported pulses and the approximate selling price of these pulses in retail market;

(d) whether Government has any plan to boost cultivation of Dalhan in the country, if so, details thereof; and

(e) whether Government has any proposal to increase the Minimum Support Price of pulses at par with landing cost of these imported pulses?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Government has approved creation of a buffer stock of pulses to contain the rising prices of pulses. The buffer stock is being built both through domestic procurement and imports. While domestic procurement of pulses has been completed, import of pulses for building the buffer stock is under progress through Metals and Minerals Trading Corporation (MMTC).