THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) No Sir, During 2016-17 Government of India has allocated foodgrains for Below Poverty Line (BPL) families belonging to only three States namely Kerala, Nagaland and Tamil Nadu till implementation of National Food Security Act (NFSA) in these States and they have lifted almost entire quantity of foodgrains allocated under BPL category (Nagaland implemented NFSA w.e.f August, 2016 and Kerala and Tamil Nadu implemented NFSA w.e.f November, 2016).

National Food Security Act, (NFSA) 2013 has been implemented in Jharkhand from October, 2015, and in Gujarat from April, 2016. The percentage of offtake of foodgrains (wheat and rice) under NFSA in Jharkhand and Gujarat during 2016-17 (upto November) has been 98%. During the same period, the all India percentage of offtake of foodgrains has been 96%.

(b) to (d) In view of (a) above, questions do not arise.

Aadhaar cards issued in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana

3448. DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) how many Aadhaar cards have been issued in the States of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana;

(b) whether there are any reports of misuse of these cards from the two States;

(c) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh has taken prior permission of Centre/ UID Authority while linking Aadhaar number with several welfare schemes in the State; and

(d) if not, why the State was allowed to make use of the UID data?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) As on 30th November, 2016, the numbers of Aadhaar cards generated in respect of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana are 5.04 crore and 3.78 crore respectively.

(b) No, Sir. Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI), under Ministry of Electronics and IT, has extended authentication facility to verify Aadhaar online anytime and anywhere. Accordingly, the entities requiring a resident to produce Aadhaar as a proof of identity can authenticate the Aadhaar holder online on a public portal *http://resident.uidai.net.in.*

(c) and (d) Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI), under Ministry of Electronics and IT, only issues Aadhaar to the residents of the country. Linking of schemes with Aadhaar is decided by the organizations/departments administering those schemes. The organizations/departments who intend to use Aadhaar as an identifier for delivery of subsidy/benefit/services to the residents can do so as per provisions of Section 7 or Section 57 of Aadhaar Act, 2016.

Unique Biometric Competency Centre

3449. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that UIDAI has set up a Unique Biometric Competency Centre (UBCC);

(b) if so, whether UBCC has been established to address the biometric challenges faced by UIDAI, if so, what are these challenges;

(c) whether it is a fact that in many instances, while using Aadhaar for identification, instead of biometrics, other safety measures like One-Time Password (OTP) is being used;

(d) if so, then what is the need of collecting biometric data under Aadhaar; and

(e) whether Government intends to make use of biometric compulsory despite security challenges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir. One Time Password (OTP) is one of the three modes of Authentication Services (Demographic, Biometric and OTP) being provided by Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI). One or more mode of Authentication may be used as per need.

(d) Biometrics are collected to establish unique identity of the resident for assigning Aadhaar number as well as for biometric authentication.

(e) Every resident shall be entitled to obtain an Aadhaar number and for the purposes of generation of Aadhaar number, an individual is required to submit his Biometrics during enrolment as per the provisions of the Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, 2016. Biometric authentication is one of the modes of authentication using the Aadhaar platform and