

Kerala is covered. The details of production of rice in Kerala during 2014-15 to 2016-17 and funds allocated to Kerala during the same period for rice cultivation are as under:—

Year	Production (million tonnes) -Overall India	Production (million tonnes)-Kerala	Funds allocated (₹ crore)
2014-15	105.48	0.56	3.15*
2015-16	104.41	0.55	1.50
2016-17	110.15**	0.45**	1.46

* Funding pattern was 100% central share, from 2015-16, it has been changed to 60:40

** As per 4th Advance Estimates, DE&S, DAC&FW

Denying of ration due to lack of Aadhaar Number

1354. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA:

SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD:

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

(a) the recourse available to BPL families denied rations due to lack of the Aadhaar number;

(b) whether the High Court of Delhi recently directed the Government of Delhi to pay compensation to the affected families who have been denied rations either on account of not possessing Aadhaar numbers or biometric authentication issues;

(c) whether Government plans to incorporate the directive nation-wide; and

(d) whether Government has taken any steps to tackle the problem arising out of improper or failed capture of biometrics of aged people and their inability to register for Aadhaar, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) After implementation of National Food Security Act [NFSA], criteria of identification of beneficiaries/households has been delinked from BPL/APL categories and the beneficiaries are identified by State/UT Governments under two Categories namely (i) Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) Households and (ii) Priority Households.

As per provisions of Notification issued by this Department on dated 8.2.17 (as amended from time to time), eligible beneficiaries under NFSA, 2013 who do not possess Aadhaar, are required to make application for Aadhaar enrolment by

giving their name, address, mobile number with Ration Card number and other details with their fair price shop owners or through the web portal provided for the purpose by State/UT. In the light of the provisions of the above notification, benefits under NFSA cannot be denied by State/UT Governments for the only reasons that eligible beneficiaries do not possess Aadhaar. The said notification further provides that till the Aadhaar is assigned to the beneficiaries of subsidies under NFSA, the entitlements under NFSA shall be given to such individuals on production of Ration Card and either Aadhaar Enrolment ID slip or copy of his/her request made to State Government for Aadhaar Enrolment alongwith any of the 8 documents listed in the said notification.

(b) and (c) Government of NCT of Delhi has informed that no such direction has been received by Government of NCT of Delhi.

(d) A letter no. 1(8)/2017-PD-II dated 24.10.2017 has been issued to all State/UT Governments which *inter alia* covers the issues arising out of failure of biometric authentication at PoS and the method to distribute foodgrains in such cases.

Enrolment of Aadhaar for availing PDS subsidy

1355. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has made Aadhaar compulsory for availing PDS subsidy, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details of leakages from PDS likely to be plugged by this measure;

(c) the other steps taken to make PDS more effective; and

(d) whether households living in remote areas, such as Jaisalmer and Bikaner in Rajasthan, not having Aadhaar are being given more time for enrolment of Aadhaar to avail PDS subsidy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) As per provisions of Notification SO No. 371(E) dated 8.2.17 (as amended from time to time), issued by this Department on, eligible beneficiaries under National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013 who do not possess Aadhaar, are required to make application for Aadhaar enrolment by giving their name, address, mobile number with Ration Card number and other details with their fair price shop owners or through the web portal provided for the purpose by State/UT. In the light of the provisions of the above notification, benefits under NFSA cannot be denied by State/UT Governments for the only reason that eligible beneficiaries do not possess Aadhaar.