

2. With a view to introduce mechanized process for quality checking, 30 Computerized Rice Analyzers (AnnadarpanSMART) developed by Centre for Development of Advance Computing (CDAC), Kolkata were made available in 07 major procuring regions namely Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Orissa, West Bengal, Chhattisgarh and Andhra Pradesh during KMS 2017-18.
3. In order to eliminate subjectivity and brief clarity in the analysis of samples of rice, a Pictorial Depiction of the refractions in respect of Uniform specifications of rice based on the definition of refractions as per BIS(IS2813:1995) has been displayed in all the laboratories as well as to reduce human error in manual analysis.
4. Checks /Super checks are conducted Fortnightly, Monthly and Quaterly by Technical Assistant, Manager(QC) and Asst General Manager(QC) respectively at the time of storage of foodgrains to ensure the health of the grains is maintained all the times.
5. A drive has been launched to carry out effective prophylactic and curative treatment of stocks and regular inspections are being carried out to minimize damage to stocks.
6. Stocks are issued on First In First out (FIFO) Principle.
7. Disciplinary action against the defaulters is invariably taken who were found accountable for purchase of Sub-Standard Stocks.

Exclusion of people due to Aadhaar authentication failure

4567. PROF. M. V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has conducted a nation-wide survey to map the State-wise rate of exclusion of people due to seeding and authentication failure under Aadhaar, under the Public Distribution System;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the Government's plan to bring down the rate of this exclusion due to Aadhaar authentication-related failures?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (d) No such survey has been conducted.

In order to identify and weed out duplicate/ineligible ration cards/beneficiaries from PDS, and to enable 'Rightful Targeting' of food subsidies - States/UTs have been asked to seed the available Aadhaar numbers of eligible beneficiaries with their ration cards. However, this Department has also issued clear instructions to all States/UTs that, no eligible beneficiary should be denied from his/her entitled quota of subsidised foodgrains due to non-availability of Aadhaar number / failure of biometric authentication / any other technical reasons. At the national level, 82.4% ration cards under NFSA have been seeded with Aadhaar numbers of at least one member of the household.

Prevention of food wastage

†4568. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is seriously considering upon prevention of food wastage;
- (b) if so, whether Government has taken any step in this regard, so far; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (c) Government carries out publicity campaign through print and electronic media to sensitize people against Food Wastage from time to time. In addition, States/UTs were advised by Central Government to include chapter on prevention of food wastage in the school syllabi to inculcate awareness among young students sensitize them against food wastage at the growing age itself.

Aadhaar-Based cash transfers under PDS

4569. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government plans to go ahead with their decision of scrapping the PDS and replacing it with Aadhaar-based cash transfers or plans to take into

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.