

(d) and (e) No such request has been received in the Department from Government of Rajasthan.

Starvation deaths in Jharkhand due to denial of ration

3108. SHRI BINOY VISWAM: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there have been various reports of deaths in Jharkhand due to starvation and allegations have been made that they were denied ration earlier too;
- (b) if so, the actions Government has taken to track these cases; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB DADARAO): (a) to (c) A few reports have of-late appeared in the media alleging starvation deaths in the State of Jharkhand. But as per available records and received information from the State Government, the allegations of deaths due to starvation have not been substantiated.

Further, as and when any complaints are received in this Department from individuals, organizations or through media reports, they are sent to the concerned State/UT Government for necessary inquiry and appropriate action.

Implementation of One Nation-One Ration Card scheme

3109. PROF. M. V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether One Nation-One Ration Card Scheme would be implemented only on Centre-supported subsidies, if so, how would it solve the problem of inter-State migrants wishing to access State subsidies;
- (b) how would the public distribution mechanisms of the State function, if the ration system is regulated by the Centre; and
- (c) the measures which would be taken to ensure that all ration shops have a Point of Sale (PoS) Machine?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB DADARAO): (a) to (c) To

sustain the reforms brought in by scheme on 'End to End Computerization of Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) Operations' the Department of Food and Public Distribution has launched a new scheme namely "Integrated Management of Public Distribution System (IM-PDS)" for implementation during 2018-19 and 2019-20. The main objective of the scheme is to introduce nation-wide portability of ration card holders under National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA), to lift their entitlement foodgrains from any FPS in the country without the need to obtain a new ration card, by integrating the existing PDS systems/portals of States/UTs with the Central systems/portals, etc. The national portability under 'One Nation One Ration Card' system shall be applicable only to the ration card holders under NFSA.

Under IM-PDS scheme, there is no requirement to change the functioning of existing PDS systems/operations of the States/UTs.

So far, 20 States/UTs have completed the installation of electronic Point of Sale (ePoS) devices in all FPSs. This scheme is planned to commence in phased manner in States/UTs preferably in States/UTs having ePoS devices functioning properly in FPSs.

Assistance to sugar mills to offset the cost of sugarcane

†3110. CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

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

(a) whether in order to offset the cost of sugarcane, sugar mills were given assistance at the rate of 5.50 per quintal during 2017-18 and at an increased rate of ₹13.88 per quintal during 2018-19;

(b) if so, details of amount given to sugar mills under this head as assistance and whether any assessment has been done to know the number of farmers who were paid in time;

(c) whether the amount given by Government for sugarcane payment to farmers is being utilised by sugar mills under other heads; and

(d) if so, details thereof?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.