

of foodgrains per household per month. At present, the Act is being implemented in all the States/UTs covering about 80 crore persons to get highly subsidized foodgrains. The coverage under the Act is substantially high to ensure that all the vulnerable and needy sections of the society get its benefit.

The Government of India makes additional allocation of foodgrains for natural calamities based on the request of State/UT Govt. As per the extant norms, in case of natural calamities, the allocation of foodgrains for 3 months of demand can be made to the States/UTs on the basis of the request received so that the relief measures are not affected.

The implementation of NFSA through the Public Distribution System (PDS) is a joint responsibility of the Central and State Governments/UT Administrations, and the State Governments/UT Administrations are responsible for the identification of beneficiaries under the NFSA. The scheme of End-to-End Computerization of the PDS has ensured rightful targeting of the beneficiaries all over the country. Further, Government of India has issued advisories to all States/UTs to identify and cover the weakest sections of the society under PDS and launch special drives to issue ration cards to them. Advisories have been issued to all State/UTs that no beneficiary/household shall be deleted from the list of eligible beneficiaries/households only on the grounds of not possessing Aadhaar and shall also not be denied subsidized foodgrains or cash transfer of food subsidy under NFSA due to non-availability of Aadhaar or failure of biometric authentication.

Aadhaar-based technical improvements in PDS

†2156. SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the States that have adopted Aadhaar-based technical improvements in PDS model in the country, the State-wise details thereof;

(b) whether it is a fact that many States are facing pressure even after adopting the said technical improvements, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government proposes to do away with the Aadhaar based technical improvements in PDS mode, if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB DADARAO): (a) to (c) The Department in association with all States/UTs is implementing a scheme on 'End-to-End Computerization of PDS Operations'. The scheme includes digitization of ration cards/beneficiaries data including seeding of Aadhaar numbers and installation of ePoS (electronic Point of Sale) devices at all FPSs for bringing transparency in the distribution and ensured delivery of highly subsidised foodgrains under NFSA. State/UT wise statement showing progress of Aadhaar seeding and ePoS installation is given in the Statement (*See below*).

Further, Department has issued a notification under the Section-7 of the Aadhaar Act 2016 on 08/02/2017 (as amended from time to time) for the use of Aadhaar in PDS for the distribution of subsidized foodgrains to eligible beneficiaries under the National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA). The said notification issued on 08/02/2017 requires that beneficiaries under NFSA who do not possess an Aadhaar number or are not yet enrolled for Aadhaar, but are desirous of availing subsidies under NFSA, should make an application for Aadhaar enrolment by 30/06/2017; presently extended up to 31/12/2019.

Also, in case of any areas/FPS locations with poor internet connectivity/temporary unavailability of network, which may result in failure of biometric authentication of beneficiaries, the Department has issued clear instructions to all State/UT Governments that no genuine beneficiary shall be denied for aforesaid reasons including technical failure/poor biometric of the beneficiary.

Statement

Details of Digitization, Aadhaar seeding & FPS automation

Sl. No.	State	Digitization (%)	% Aadhaar Seeding in Ration Cards	FPS Automation (%)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andaman & Nicobar	100%	97%	96%
2.	Andhra Pradesh	100%	100%	100%
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	100%	57%	1%
4.	Assam	100%	0%	0%

1	2	3	4	5
5.	Bihar	100%	77%	32%
6.	Chandigarh (DBT)	100%	100%	NA
7.	Chhattisgarh	100%	98%	97%
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	100%	100%	100%
9.	Daman and Diu	100%	100%	100%
10.	Delhi	100%	100%	0%
11.	Goa	100%	98%	100%
12.	Gujarat	100%	99%	100%
13.	Haryana	100%	100%	100%
14.	Himachal Pradesh	100%	100%	100%
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	100%	83%	100%
16.	Jharkhand	100%	95%	100%
17.	Karnataka	100%	100%	99%
18.	Kerala	100%	99%	100%
19.	Lakshadweep	100%	100%	100%
20.	Madhya Pradesh	100%	90%	100%
21.	Maharashtra	100%	98%	100%
22.	Manipur	100%	81%	0%
23.	Meghalaya	100%	0%	0%
24.	Mizoram	100%	93%	0%
25.	Nagaland	100%	69%	0%
26.	Odisha	100%	99%	100%
27.	Puducherry (DBT)	100%	100%	NA
28.	Punjab	100%	99%	100%
29.	Rajasthan	100%	97%	97%

1	2	3	4	5
30.	Sikkim	100%	91%	99%
31.	Tamil Nadu	100%	100%	100%
32.	Telangana	100%	99%	100%
33.	Tripura	100%	100%	100%
34.	Uttar Pradesh	100%	100%	100%
35.	Uttarakhand	100%	94%	60%
36.	West Bengal	100%	64%	82%
	Summary	100%	85.8%	83.2%

Procurement of foodgrains under MSP regime

2157. DR. BANDA PRAKASH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the foodgrains produced by the farmers as Rabi and Kharif crops have been procured by Government at the prescribed Minimum Support Price (MSP) in the country during last two years;

(b) Procurement of foodgrains under MSP regime whether the prices of agricultural products are decreasing steadily, resulting in major differences in rates of agricultural produces; and

(c) if so, whether Government is considering to formulate any fixed rule or issue directions for procurement of foodgrains at the MSP regularly at prescribed times from each of the foodgrain mandis in order to resolve the said problem, 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) Government fixes Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for 22 mandated agricultural crops including foodgrains and Fair & Remunerative Price (FRP) for sugarcane on the basis of the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP). The procurement of foodgrains of Fair and Average Quality (FAQ) as determined by Government of India by Central Government and State Government agencies including