

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.198
TO BE ANSWERED ON 4TH FEBRUARY, 2025

REDUCING LEAKAGES IN THE PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

198 SHRI SATNAM SINGH SANDHU:

Will the Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of measures implemented to ensure transparency and reduce leakages in the Public Distribution System (PDS);
- (b) the details of the amount saved due to cash transfer of food subsidy directly into the bank account of PDS in the country till date; and
- (c) the details of the amount saved due to cash transfer of food subsidy directly into the bank account of PDS in the State of Punjab till date?

A N S W E R
MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS,
FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRIMATI NIMUBEN JAYANTIBHAI BAMBHANIYA)

(a): As part of the technology driven Public Distribution System (PDS) reforms, with the aim to improve the efficiency and reduce leakages in the PDS, the ration cards/beneficiaries database have been completely digitized (100%) in all States/UTs. The transparency portal and online grievance redressal facility/Toll-free number have been implemented in all States/UTs. Also, online allocation has been implemented in all States/UTs (except UTs of Chandigarh, Puducherry and Urban area of Dadra & Nagar Haveli which have adopted DBT Cash Transfer scheme) and supply chain has been computerized in 31 States/UTs. Further, for better tracking of foodgrains distribution, nearly 5.41 Lakh (99.6%) out of total 5.43 Lakh Fair Price Shops (FPSs) in the country have been automated by installing ePoS devices for the distribution of foodgrains in a transparent manner (electronically) through biometric/ Aadhaar authentication of beneficiaries of PDS.

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(b): The Cash Transfer of Food Subsidy (DBT scheme) is being implemented in 3 UTs i.e. Chandigarh, Puducherry & Dadra & Nagar Havelli only. The details of amount saved due to DBT in the 3 UTs is as follows:

F Y	Amount (in Rs.)
2022-23	18,41,29,226.14
2023-24	9,59,53,573.53
Total	28,00,82,799.67

(c): Cash Transfer (DBT) mode is not being implemented in the State of Punjab, therefore, question does not arise.
