

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2195  
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2000  
PANCHAYAT IN PDS  
SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV (PATIL)

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

- (a) whether the Government have decided to involve Panchayati Raj Institutions in order to streamline the Public Distribution System;
- (b) if so, the details of modalities worked out for the purpose; and
- (c) the steps taken to implement the social audit concept in Public Distribution system?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION ( SHRI CHAUHAN )

(a) Yes, Sir. Based on the belief that truly democratic institutions do better safeguard food security concerns of all than the State bureaucracy, the Government has advised the State Governments to more substantially involve the Gram Panchyats in supervision and monitoring of PDS especially at FPS level as a measure of social audit.

(b) & (c) : The Government has issued detailed guidelines for involvement of PRIs including inter alia the following measures :

(i) List of BPL beneficiaries to be displayed at Fair Price Shops and offices of Gram Panchayats.

(ii) Entrusting the Gram Panchayat for inspection of the FPS records and to keep a close watch on the day to day functioning of FPS.

(iii) Gram Panchayats to be responsible for checking of ration cards for its genuineness and correct entries of units there in.