

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5472
ANSWERED ON:28.04.2010
PLANNING TO DISMANTLE PDS
Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Planning Commission is planning to dismantle the Public Distribution System (PDS) and start cash transfers as reported in the media;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the corruption in PDS is being touted as the principal reason for advocating cash transfers;
- (d) if so, whether the Government is aware that there are many examples of how other Government cash transfer schemes have resulted in linkages;
- (e) if so, the reasons for scrapping PDS; and
- (f) the method by which grain promised under the Food Security Bill be provided to the poor in the absence of the PDS network?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY)

- (a) to (e): No, Sir. The Planning Commission has not planned to dismantle the Public Distribution System (PDS).
- (f): The Government in the Department of Food and Public Distribution is currently seized of enactment of the statute for national food security, after consultation with stakeholder Ministries/Departments and for improvements in the PDS deliveries.