

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:244  
ANSWERED ON:27.07.2010  
E-TRANSFER OF FOOD ENTITLEMENT  
Kumar Shri P.

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to transfer food entitlements to the ration card holders under the Public Distribution System/Targeted Public Distribution System through an electronic system; and

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the salient features of the said system?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a) &(b): In order to make Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) work more efficiently, Government has approved implementation of a pilot scheme on Smart Card based delivery of essential commodities under TPDS in Chandigarh UT and State of Haryana. Under it, eligible Below Poverty Line (BPL) families would be issued Smart Cards in place of existing ration cards. They will have bio-metric features of the family members, based on which verification of genuineness of the BPL families will take place and only thereafter the essential commodities would be issued to them from the Fair Price Shops.