

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:157

ANSWERED ON:09.11.2010

COMPUTERISATION OF PDS

Deo Shri Kalikesh Narayan Singh;Deora Shri Milind Murl

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to computerise the Public Distribution System for disbursing of foodgrains in consonance with the recommendations of the Supreme Court; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken so far in this regard?

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) to (b) As per the Hon'ble Supreme Court's Order dated 27.7.2010, a Task Force headed by Director General, National Informatics Centre has been set up on 9.8.2010. The Task Force has submitted its report for Computerization of the Public Distribution System.

Government of India has taken up the scheme of computerization of Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) operations to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the TPDS on a pilot basis in three districts each of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Chhattisgarh and Delhi and piloting of food grain bag tracking in one district in Chhattisgarh .

A pilot scheme on Smart Card based delivery of essential commodities has been approved for Chandigarh UT and Haryana. Under the scheme, existing ration cards are to be replaced by Smart Cards.