

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:246
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2011
E DISTRIBUTION OF FOODGRAINS
Maadam Shri Vikrambhai Arjanbhai

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to transfer the food entitlements to ration cardholders through an electronic system once the Public Distribution System (PDS) is linked to Unique Identification Cards or Aadhar's Central data repository;
- (b) if so, the salient features of the proposed online scheme; and
- (c) the extent to which the fake ration cardholders are likely to be detected and eliminated by this online PDS scheme?

Answer

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

(a) to (c): Government has already initiated action to transfer food entitlements through an electronic system to beneficiaries under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) by taking up pilot schemes on Computerisation of TPDS operations and Smart Card based delivery of essential commodities.

The pilot scheme on Computerisation of TPDS operations envisages, among others, making real-time information available, ensure effectiveness of service delivery, and put in place a grievance redressal mechanism. This is intended to eliminate lifting of TPDS commodities by persons other than the genuine beneficiaries.