

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
PLANNING  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1667  
ANSWERED ON:10.08.2011  
CONVERGENCE OF PDS WITH UID  
Ramkishun Shri

**Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has made all arrangements for distribution of ration on the basis of Unique Identification Card (UID);
- (b) if so, whether UID Cards have been issued to all the citizens in the country; and
- (c) if not, the time by which the said cards are likely to be issued to all the citizens in the country?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR PLANNING, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND EARTH SCIENCES (DR. ASHWANI KUMAR)

(a): According to information received from the Department of Food and Public Distribution, under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), the responsibility of identification of eligible families, issuance and distribution of ration cards vest with the State/ UT Governments and they have been requested to make efforts to digitize their ration card database and introduce UID (Aadhaar) numbers in TPDS.

(b) and (c): The mandate of Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) is to issue UID numbers to all the residents. The number is the proof of identify and not citizenship. By March 2014, UIDAI plans to cover 600 million residents. Since enrollment to UID is voluntary, no timeframe has been presently anticipated to cover all the residents in the country.