

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4413  
ANSWERED ON:30.08.2011  
PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM  
Pandey Saroj

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

(a) whether there is any proposal to adopt the model of Public Distribution System (PDS) presently operational in Chhattisgarh as a benchmark and implement the same model in all the States; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

**Answer**

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

(a) and (b): Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is operated under the joint responsibility of Central Government and State/Union Territory (UT) Governments. The Central Government is responsible for procurement, allocation and transportation of foodgrains upto the designated depots of the Food Corporation of India. The operational responsibilities for lifting and distributing the allocated foodgrains within the States/UTs, identification of eligible Below Poverty Line (BPL) families, issuance of ration cards to them and supervision over distribution of allocated foodgrains to eligible card holders through the Fair Price Shops (FPSs) are of the respective State/UT Governments.

At present, there is no proposal to adopt the PDS model operational in the State of Chhattisgarh as a benchmark for implementation in all States/UTs. However, in relation to computerisation of the TPDS, the Hon'ble Supreme Court has in its order dated 20.4.2011 passed in Writ Petition (Civil) No.196/2001 referred to the model of computerisation in the State of Chhattisgarh and has directed that a High Powered Committee (HPC) under the chairmanship of Justice D.P. Wadhwa (Retd.) may examine the models of computerisation prepared by different States/UTs and prepare a model which can be applied in the entire country. The HPC will submit its report to the Hon'ble Supreme Court.