

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:569  
ANSWERED ON:07.05.2013  
TRANSPARENCY IN PDS  
Alagiri Shri S. ;Singh Shri Ganesh

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

- (a) whether some States have initiated steps or introduce new models to check corruption and bring transparency in the functioning of the Public Distribution System (PDS) in view of the large number of cases relating to irregularities/diversion being reported recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the success achieved therein, State-wise;
- (c) whether any of the said models are being considered by the Union Government for replication to reform/ strengthen PDS in other States and if so, the details thereof;and
- (d) the details of the cases of corruption/ irregularities/diversion reported along with the corrective measures including action against those held responsible for the lapses, taken during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF THE STARRED QUESTION NO. 569 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 07.05.2013 IN THE LOK SABHA

(a) and (b) Yes, Madam. States/Union Territories (UTs) have taken various initiatives for checking corruption, bringing transparency and strengthening the overall implementation of Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS). As part of modernisation of TPDS, the States of Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Gujarat and Puducherry UT have implemented computerised supply chain management of TPDS. State of Gujarat has introduced the use of bar coded ration cards and issuance of food coupons through the Common Service Centres (CSCs). Dissemination of information through SMS alerts regarding foodgrain dispatch/availability at FPS is operational in States of Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Puducherry and Uttar Pradesh. Further, this Department had financed pilot projects in States/UTs namely, Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Chandigarh, Chhattisgarh, Delhi and Haryana for computerisation of TPDS. A Common Application Software (CAS) has been prepared by National Informatics Centre (NIC) for computerisation of TPDS operations based upon learnings of these pilot projects and other best practices, which has been offered to all States/UTs.

(c) The best practices and reforms undertaken by States/UTs are shared at various conferences, meetings, etc with a view to encourage other States/UTs to consider similar innovative and new models.

(d) In order to maintain supplies and to secure availability and distribution of essential commodities, Public Distribution System (Control) Order, 2001 has been notified by the Government which mandates the State and UT Governments to carry out all required action to ensure smooth functioning of TPDS. The said Order empowers State/UT Governments to take punitive action under clauses 8 & 9 in case of contravention of relevant provisions of the Order. State/UT-wise details regarding action taken under clauses 8 & 9 of the said Order during the last three years and the current year is at Annex.