

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1867  
ANSWERED ON:17.12.2013  
AADHAAR LINKAGE WITH PDS  
Das Shri Ram Sundar;Karwariya Shri Kapil Muni

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to link the Public Distribution System (PDS) with the Aadhaar database/cards;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the modalities worked out in this regard; and
- (c) the benefits likely to accrue as a result thereof and the time by which it is proposed to be implemented?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): Under the Plan Scheme on End-to-end Computerization of Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) Operations, States/UTs are required to digitize their beneficiaries' databases. In the process, States/UTs have been requested to seed the 'Aadhaar' numbers wherever available into the digitized database of the beneficiaries. Department has also issued ration card capture form/ data dictionary prepared by National Informatics Centre (NIC) to all States/ UTs. These data standards have the provision of seeding of 'Aadhaar' numbers into the ration card database.

(c): Subsequent to linking of ration cards/beneficiary database with 'Aadhaar' number, bogus/ ineligible ration cards are expected to be eliminated during the process of de-duplication. Further, the use of 'Aadhaar' based authentication at Fair Price Shop (FPS) level will ensure proper identification of beneficiaries and distribution of foodgrains only to the intended beneficiaries, thereby reducing leakages/diversions, etc.

States/UTs had been requested to complete the work of digitization of ration cards/ beneficiary database by March, 2013 and computerisation of supply chain management by October,2013. However, the progress in States/UTs is uneven across the country due to delay in finalization of action plans by States/UTs, late submission of their proposals for financial assistance, practical problems faced by States/UTs during implementation, etc.