

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1752

ANSWERED ON:08.03.2016

Digitisation of Cards

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

- (a) whether a large number of fake cards/ineligible BPL beneficiaries have been detected, if so, the details thereof indicating the total number of beneficiaries identified, cards issued, fake cards detected and the quantum and value of foodgrains lost due to fake cards during the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (b) whether the Government had initiated the scheme for digitisation of the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) supply chain and if so, the details thereof indicating the components of the digitisation programme along with the number of cards digitised till date, State/UT-wise;
- (c) the amount of funds allocated towards implementing digitisation programme since its inception, State/UT and year-wise;
- (d) whether it is a fact that there has been a delay in digitising TPDS in several States of the country and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the action taken by the Government towards achieving 100 per cent digitisation of TPDS; and
- (e) the other steps taken by the Government to improve the foodgrain management and bring transparency in the system?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION  
(SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN)

- (a): As per the information received from State/UTs Government, a Statement showing the number of bogus/ineligible ration cards deleted by the State/UT Governments from 2012 to 2015 ( as reported by States/UTs upto 30.06.2015) is at Annexure – I. Since Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is operated under joint responsibility of Central and the State/Union Territory (UT) Governments and operational part i.e. identification of eligible beneficiaries under various categories and distribution of ration to them falls under the purview of respective State/UT Governments, no such data on loss due to fake ration cards is maintained by department of Food & Public Distribution. State-wise total number of ration cards are at Annexure-II.
- (b) to (d): Yes Madam, Department of Food and Distribution has implemented a Plan on 'End-to-end Computerisation of TPDS Operations' under 12th Five Year Plan (2012-17) on cost sharing basis with the States/UTs. Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) approved Component-I of the Scheme in October, 2012 with funding requirement of Rs. 884.07 crore during 2012-17, which includes Government of India's share of Rs. 489.37 crore and States/UTs share of Rs. 394.70 crore. Costs are being shared on 90:10 basis in respect of North Eastern States and on 50:50 basis with other States/UTs. Component-I of the Scheme comprises activities, namely, digitization of ration cards/beneficiary and other databases, computerisation of supply-chain management, setting up of transparency portals and grievance redressal mechanisms. The Department conveyed administrative approval for the scheme to all States/UTs on 10.12.2012. National Informatics Centre (NIC) is the technical partner under the scheme. The Ration Cards have been completely digitized in all States/UTs except Himachal Pradesh. The number of Ration Cards digitized till date State/UT wise is given in Annexure-II. The amount of funds allocated towards implementation of the scheme since inception, State/UT and year-wise is given in Annexure-III.
- (e): TPDS (C) Order 2015 provides that all Targeted Public Distribution System related records shall be placed in the public domain and kept open for inspection to the public in the manner as may be prescribed by the State Government. Every local authority, or any other authority or body, as may be authorised by the State Government, shall conduct or cause to be conducted, periodic social audits on the functioning of Targeted Public Distribution System, and cause to publicise its findings and take necessary action, in such manner as may be prescribed by the State Government.

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