

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:130
ANSWERED ON:02.12.2014
COMPUTERISATION OF PDS
Antony Shri Anto

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

- (a) whether the Government has any ambitious plan to use ICT, in the implementation of the Public Distribution System (PDS), including elimination of corruption, irregularities and other malpractices and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government is also implementing any scheme for the computerisation of the Public Distribution System (PDS); and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the present status of the scheme along with the assistance provided to the States for the purpose during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise?

Answer

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

(a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF THE STARRED QUESTION NO. 130 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 02.12.2014 IN THE LOK SABHA.

(a) to (c): Yes, Madam. With a view to modernise the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and address the various challenges including irregularities noticed in its implementation, use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) is being made. A Plan Scheme on 'End-to-end Computerisation of TPDS Operations' is being implemented under 12th Five Year Plan (2012-17) on cost sharing basis with the States/UTs. Government approved the scheme in October, 2012 with funding requirement of Rs. 884.07 crore, 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 is being implemented at present, which 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.

As per reports received from States/UTs, present status of the scheme State/UT-wise is at Annex-I. Under the scheme launched in 2012-13, details of funds released to States/UTs from 2012-13 onwards are at Annex-II.