

*[English]***Foreign Citizens** *Delhi*

2026. SHRI LAL BIHARI TIWARI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of foreign citizens living in Delhi; and
- (b) the time by which their names will be excluded from the voter lists?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) There were as on the 28th February, 1999, 48805 foreign citizens registered in Delhi. According to the report furnished by the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi, none of these foreign citizens have been included in the voters list.

*[Translation]***Availability of Food Items**

2027. SHRI H.P. SINGH:
SHRI T. GOVINDAN:
DR. BIZAY SONKAR SHASTRI:
SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR:
SHRI A.C. JOS:
SHRI RANJIB BISWAL:
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:

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

- (a) whether the specified food items are generally not available to the people at the ration shops in rural areas tribal areas and the people living below poverty line;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the action taken or proposed to be taken to ensure the availability and quality of these items under Public Distribution System Revamped Public Distribution System; and
- (d) the number of complaints received from the general masses in this behalf during the last one year State/Union Territory-wise, month-wise and items-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV): (a) to (d) While the Central Government

procures and makes available to the States/UTs PDS commodities at subsidised prices, the responsibility of distribution to the consumers through the network of fair price shops rests with the State Governments. The complaints received from the public in this regard are referred to the States/UTs concerned for taking necessary action. No major complaint regarding non-availability of specified food items or their quality has been received during the last one year.

Allocation of specified food items under the Public Distribution System (PDS), viz., rice, wheat, sugar and edible oil to the State Government/Union Territory Administrations is made more than a month in advance to ensure their availability to the consumers. As regards the quality, foodgrains are procured strictly conforming to uniform specifications. The quality of these items is continuously monitored during storage. Foodgrains conforming to PFA standards and free from insect infestation are issued for PDS.

Besides above, following steps are also taken by the Government to check the quality of foodgrains distributed under PDS:

- (i) The representatives of the State Governments are allowed to check the quality of foodgrains before lifting stocks from the godowns for distribution under PDS/TPDS.
- (ii) Sealed samples of foodgrains from the issuing lots are displayed at fair price shops for the benefit of consumers.
- (iii) Surprise checks are carried out at fair price shops to check the quality of foodgrains.

Brain Drain

2028. SHRI CHANDRAMANI TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are aware of the brain drain of the meritorious talents who have secured education from the prestigious institutions of the country;
- (b) if so, the main causes therefor; and
- (c) the steps proposed to be taken to bring back talents and engage them in the development of the country?