

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1469
TO BE ANSWERED ON 4TH DECEMBER, 2024

E-KYC PROCESS

1469. SMT. PRATIMA MONDAL:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) the rationale behind implementing the e-KYC process which has reportedly caused distress and exclusion for vulnerable populations such as migrants and those with biometric discrepancies;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to reconsider the process to ensure that it does not further marginalize those already struggling to access food security under the PDS and National Food Security Act; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS,
FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRIMATI NIMUBEN JAYANTIBHAI BAMBHANIYA)

- (a): The Department of Food and Public Distribution towards ensuring the efficient and effective operations of the Public Distribution System (PDS) has been requesting all the States/ UTs to conduct the e-KYC process for all beneficiaries under the National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013. The e-KYC verification is a process to confirm the identity of a beneficiary by bio-metric authentication and then by matching his/her Aadhaar demographic data with ration card details. The process leads to the elimination of duplicate and ineligible cardholders thereby creating space for the inclusion of additional eligible & needy beneficiaries within the overall ceiling limit prescribed under the NFSA.

(b) & (c): The process of eKYC is for the right targeting and to ensure the inclusion of genuine beneficiaries. The process of eKYC does not lead to any marginalization rather ineligible beneficiaries are excluded

Further, review of ration cards/beneficiaries list, identification of ineligible/duplicate ration cards and inclusion of eligible beneficiaries/households is the responsibility of the concerned State/UT Government.

All States/UTs have been advised to undertake proper verification (including field verification) of each identified case to ensure that ration cards of genuine beneficiaries are not deleted/ suspended.
