

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:107
ANSWERED ON:05.07.2004
RESTRATING OF RATION SHOPS
Nishad Shri Mahendra Prasad

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to re-open the fair price ration shops for providing essential commodities such as kerosene oil, rice, sugar and wheat at cheaper price through PDS;
- (b) if so; by when these are likely to be re-opened; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH)

(a),(b)&(c): The Public Distribution System is operated under the joint responsibility of the Central and State Governments. The Central Government is responsible for the procurement and transportation of foodgrains upto the principal distribution centers of the Food Corporation of India. The State Governmen ts are responsible for the distribution of foodgrains and other essential commodities such as rice, wheat, sugar and kerosene to the consumers through a network of about 4.76 lakh Fair Price Shops (FPS) spread throughout the country. The administration of the FPSs rests with the concerned State Governments/UT Administrations. The Government of India has not issued any orders to close down the fair price shops.