

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:717

ANSWERED ON:15.07.2014

LEAKAGES IN PDS

Chautala Shri Dushyant;Karunakaran Shri P.

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

- (a) whether cases of leakages/diversion/irregularities have been reported in the Public Distribution System (PDS)/Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to install the Global Positioning System (GPS) on the vehicles carrying PDS commodities in order to curb leakage and diversion of foodgrains;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the assistance provided to the States for the purpose, State/UT-wise;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to replicate the PDS model of the States like Tamil Nadu and Kerala and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the other initiatives taken or being taken by the Government to streamline and bring transparency in PDS system?

Answer

THR MINISTER OF STATE FOR CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB PATIL DANVE)

(a): Yes, Madam. There have been complaints about irregularities in the functioning of Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) in some States/regions in the country. As and when complaints are received by the Government from individuals and organizations as well as through press reports, these are referred to the State Governments/UT Administrations concerned for inquiry and appropriate action. The total number of complaints received during the last three years is as below:

Year No. of complaints

2011 144

2012 171

2013 282

(b) & (c): No, Madam. There is no proposal to install Global Positioning System (GPS) on vehicles carrying TPDS commodities. However, under a pilot project, financial assistance of Rs.11.66 lakh, Rs.140.62 lakh and Rs.4.13 lakh were released to the State Governments of Tamil Nadu, Chhattisgarh and NCT of Delhi respectively during the 11th Five Year Plan.

(d): No, Madam.

(e): Strengthening and streamlining of TPDS is a continuous process. To improve functioning of TPDS and bringing transparency in the system, Government has been regularly issuing advisories and holding conferences wherein State/UT Governments are requested for continuous review of lists of BPL and AAY families, improving the offtake of allocated foodgrains, ensuring timely availability of foodgrains at FPSs, greater transparency in functioning of TPDS, improved monitoring and vigilance at various levels, adoption of revised Model Citizen's Charter, use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) tools, improving the viability of FPS operations, etc.