NEW DELHI, May 12:

To check leaks and diversions in Public Distribution System (PDS), the Centre has asked State Governments to modernise ration shops and make them consumer-friendly.

Food Minister Ram Vilas Paswan said from computerisation of Food and civil supplies to digitalising ration cards and installation of biometric devices are at different stages of completion.

"The Centre is continuously pursuing state Governments to make PDS modern and consumer friendly. We have given the task to make all PDS shops computerised," Paswan said.

"The centre is continuously pursuing state Governments to make PDS modern and consumer friendly, a project with the cost of Rs 884 crore has been taken up for computerising PDS," Paswan said.

"The project has been split into two parts: computerisation of PDS and computerisation of distribution. The first part includes the computerisation of PDS and will be completed in the next two years," Paswan said.

"The second part includes the computerisation of distribution and will be completed in three years," Paswan said.

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