# Digital Initiatives to Transform Public Distribution System

***Prelims**: Public policy| Government Initiatives | Current events of national and international importance.*

## Why in news?

*Recently, Union Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution launched digital platforms to reform India's PDS system.*

- Three Key Digital Platforms launched to take the government's welfare schemes to all citizens.
- These platforms reflect the vision of a Viksit Bharat with measurable improvements in ***infrastructure and service quality***.
- The initiatives cover over **81 crore beneficiaries** under National Food Security Act.
- They complement to One Nation One Ration Card (ONORC) and fortified rice distribution.
- It aligns with Digital India and Good Governance goal.

## Depot Darpan Portal

- It is a self-assessment and monitoring platform for **foodgrain depots.**
- **Purpose** – To boost **transparency**, **efficiency**, and **accountability** in depot operations.
- It assigns Composite Ratings (5-star system) to depots based on infrastructure and performance.
- **Key Feature –** Grading system is based on **60:40 ratio**: Operational (60%) + Infrastructure (40%)
- It monitors storage/transit loss, manpower productivity and optimized space use.
- Integration of advanced tech - **IoT sensors** for real-time environmental and inventory monitoring.
- **CCTV & live analytics** for decision-making
- Pilot smart warehouses rolling out nationwide by end of 2025.

## Anna Mitra App

- It is a mobile app for **frontline PDS stakeholders** like Fair Price Shop (FPS) dealers, food inspectors, and district officers.
- It will provoide details about stock updates, monthly sales, official alerts.
- It also monitors FPS performance, grievances, beneficiary data.
- It rolled on pilot basis in Assam, Uttarakhand, Tripura, Punjab
- It is available in Hindi, and English languages.

## Anna Sahayata Platform

- It is an **AI-enabled grievance redressal system** for PMGKAY beneficiaries.
- **Purpose -** To make grievance resolution **easy, accessible, and real-time** for all beneficiaries.
- It is currently available in,
    - WhatsApp
    - IVRS (Interactive Voice Response System)
    - Automatic Speech Recognition (ASR)
- It is rolled on pilot basis in Gujarat, Jharkhand, Telangana, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh.
- It is available in Hindi, Gujarati, Telugu, Bangla, English languages.

**Reference**

PIB| Digital Initiatives to Transform Public Distribution System (PDS)

