

MR. SPEAKER: This is not correct.

(Interruptions)

I can stop TV if you do not want it.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: If two political parties are to be projected, then we cannot cooperate.

MR. SPEAKER: This is not correct.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, we were completely left out yesterday.

MR. SPEAKER: I can just stop TV if you do not want it. But not like this.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Let the House decide. Then I will do it.

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUPHURY: Question Hour should be Question Hour.

MR. SPEAKER: This is exactly what I am tailing them.

MR. SUDHIR GIRI.

(Interruptions)

11.11 hrs.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Convictions under CPA, 1986

*490. SHRI SUDHIR GIRI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons convicted under the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 till February, 1992;

(b) the problems faced by the Union Government and the State Government in implementing this Act; and

(c) the proposals, if any, made by the States towards the effective implementation of the Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (c). A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) An annexure showing number of cases filed and disposed off Statewise is attached.

(b) Under the provision of the Act, Union Government is responsible for setting up of National consumer Disputes Redressal Commission and the Central Consumer Protection Council and the State Governments/U. T. Adms. are to set up Consumer Disputes Redressal Commissions (State Commissions), Consumer Disputes Redressal Forums (District Forums) and State level/Consumer Protection Councils. So far as the Union Government is concerned, it has constituted the Central Consumer Protection Council and the National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission and is facing no problem. The State level Consumer Protection Councils have been set up in all the State/UTs. However, some of the States have reported financial constraints, non-availability of suitable persons to be appointed as Presidents, lack of Government accommodation etc. in setting up State Commissions/ District Forums.

(c) The State Government have been requesting for financial assistance from the Central Government to implement the Consumer Protection Act, 1986. On suggestion received from the States to remove certain bottlenecks in the functioning of the three tier redressal machinery under the Act, an Ordi-

nance was issued on 15th June 1991 to provide for quorum for the sittings of the State Commissions and District Forums, the procedure for signing the orders and validation of earlier decisions etc. The Ordinance has since been replaced by an Act of the Parliament.

ANNEXURE

No. of cases filled and disposed of by the State Commissions and District Forums.

Name of the State/UT.	STATE COMMISSION		DISTRICT FORUM				REMARKS			
	Appeals		Complaints							
	Filled	Decided	In favour of Con.	Filled	Decided	In favour of Con.		Decided		
	1	2	2A	3	4	4A	5	6	6A	
Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	-	1	-	-	29	14	11	Information as on 30.11.91
Andhra Pradesh	503	157	56	480	83	3	22280	14665	9878	Information upto 30.11.1991.
Assam	15	4	3	22	1	-	216	70	19	Information is from few District Forum only. Information in Col. 6A is out of 40 cases decided.
Bihar	201	123	60	315	227	130	1357	1054	837	Information as on 31.12.91. Information only in respect of Patna Distt. Forum.

Name of the State/UT.	STATE COMMISSION		DISTRICT FORUM						REMARKS	
	Appeals			Complaints			Complaints			
	Filed	Decided	In favour of Con.	Filed	Decided	In favour of Con.				
	1	2	2A	3	4	4A	5	6	6A	
Gujarat	127	59	28	599	262	194	6703	2860	1900	Information as on 30.11.91.
Goa	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Haryana	92	85	45	38	13	5	2104	1222	848	Information upto 30.11.91
Himachal Pradesh	18	5	3	79	26	8	-	-	-	Information upto 30.11.91
Karnataka	232	168	40	365	218	48	6943	2939	794	Information upto 30.11.91
Kerala	185	74	36	545	340	85	11847	3487	1203	Information as on 30.11.91
Madhya Pradesh	122	57	25	40	24	2	1614	780	409	

APRIL 1, 1992

Name of the State/UT.	STATE COMMISSION		DISTRICT FORUM						REMARKS	
	Appeals			Complaints			Complaints			
	Filled	Decided	In favour of Con.	Filled	Decided	In favour of Con.		Decided		In favour of Con.
	1	2	2A	3	4	4A	5	6	6A	
Maharashtra	361	217	112	358	204	55	9141	4399	2730	Information as on 30.11.91
Manipur	-	-	-	2	2	2	134	127	100	Information as on 8.1.92
M.ghalaya	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Not functioning
Mizoram	-	-	-	-	-	-	32	27	8	Information upto 30.11.92
Nagaland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Not functioning
Orissa	-	-	-	-	-	-	1201	601	330	Information is respect of 12 Dist. Forum as on 30.11.91

Name of the State/UT.	STATE COMMISSION				DISTRICT FORUM				REMARKS	
	Appeals		Complaints		Complaints		Complaints			
	Filled	Decided	In favour of Con.	Filled	Decided	In favour of Con.	Filled	Decided		
	1	2	2A	3	4	4A	5	6	6A	
Punjab	-	-	-	94	34	16	2270	850	314	Information as on 30.11.91
Rajasthan	731	513	159	372	270	80	-	-	-	Information is respect of Distt. Fourn not received.
Sikkim	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Tripura	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Tamilnadu	-	-	-	-	-	-	1664	951	257	Information as on 30.11.91 in respect of 11 Distt. Fourn.
Uttar Pradesh	395	477	221	209	342	118	5428	2916	1568	Information is for the period 1.1.91 to 31.12.91

Name of the State/UT.	STATE COMMISSION		DISTRICT FORUM						REMARKS	
	Appeals		Complaints			Complaints				
	Filled	Decided	In favour of Con.	Filled	Decided	In favour of Con.	Filled	Decided		In favour of Con.
	1	2	2A	3	4	4A	5	6	6A	
West Bengal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Andaman & Nicobar Island	1	-	-	-	-	-	36	31	6	Information as on 31.12.91
Dadra & Nagar Havelli	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	Information upto 30.11.91
Daman & Diu	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	2	Information as on 30.11.91
Delhi	315	315	180	473	257	206	6554	4408	3363	Information as on 30.11.91
Chandigarh	99	57	16	185	63	27	1551	623	410	Information upto 30.11.91
Lakshadweep	1	1	-	-	-	-	8	5	4	Information upto 31.11.91

Name of the State/UT.	STATE COMMISSION			DISTRICT FORUM			REMARKS		
	Appeals			Complaints					
	Filled	Decided	In favour of Con.	Filled	Decided	In favour of Con.			
1	2	2A	3	4	4A	5	6	6A	
Pondicherry	-	-	50	24	18	274	187	131	Information is upto 13.1.92. Information in Col. 3 included appeals also.
Total	3998	2303	986	4226	2493	1045	81392	45924	27895

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI: Sir, consumers at various levels are being cheated by the traders and manufactures. So, the consumers become very much aggrieved and agitated over the fraudulent practices but they hardly raise any protest because of lack of knowledge and means of getting redressal. Now, may I know from the hon. Minister whether the Government is prepared to set up a forum at taluka level and give information to rural and backward people of this country?

SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED: Under the three-tire system of redressal, district forms have been formed and out of the 450 districts in the country, only 360 forums have been formed. If we take it to the taluka level, I do not think that would be possible by the State as they are complaining about the non-availability of infrastructural facilities.

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI: The consumers are aggrieved in the rural, tribal and backward areas and do not come forward to raise their protests. So, may I know from the hon. Minister whether the Government is prepared to entrust the task of disseminating information and knowledge to the Registrar clerks in the rural area.

SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED: All possible steps are being taken by the State and a large number of cases which have been filed with the district forums will themselves speak that awareness is coming in the districts. And further efforts are also on for bringing awareness among the consumers.

SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI: May I know from the hon. Minister whether, as far as possible, distribution of grains will be entrusted to women organisations at the grass-root level or not?

MR. SPEAKER: This has nothing to do with this question.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM NAIK: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know the names of states in which state commissions have been set up. What is the number of complaints received by these commissions and out of them in how many cases appeals have been made? The figures furnished by the hon. Minister show that neither a complaint nor an appeal has been received in West Bengal. Orissa is ruled by Janata Dal Government and no complaint has been received by them also. The same is the case with Tamil Nadu. Is it that no one is complaining in these states or the State Governments are not working? What does the Central Government propose to do in this regard. Will it call the State Minister and tell them that if this will be the state of affairs, what the centre can do in the matter.

SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I understand that cases are being filed in the aforesaid States. When we asked these States to furnish the information they did not send any information. As such, we have not made any mention of it. I will give you specific information in this regard.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: It is not clear. Will you explain a little more?

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI KESHARBAI SONAJI KSHIRSAGAR: It has been mentioned in the reply that Consumer Protection Councils have been set up in certain districts. The percentage of women is fifty per cent in the country and they work with utmost devotion and sincerity. As such, will the Government take steps to provide fifty per cent reservation to women?

[*English*]

SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED: We will do so wherever it is possible.

[*Translation*]**Distribution of Surplus Land**

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*491. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA
NAYAK;
SHRI BARE LAL JATAV:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a decision with regard to distribution of the surplus land amongst the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes and

rural poor by March, 1992 was taken at the Chief Ministers' Conference held on October 4-5, 1991;

(b) if so, the area identified and distributed so far and the number of beneficiaries, State-wise and Union Territory-wise;

(c) the area of surplus land still available for distribution, State-wise; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to expedite its distribution?

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) A decision was taken in the Conference of the Chief Minister held at New Delhi on October 4-5, 1991 that distribution of surplus land under the Land Ceiling Laws should be completed by 31st March, 1992.

(b) and (c). Area (identified) available for distribution, area distributed, number of beneficiaries and net area available for distribution. (October 1991 - March 1992)

(Area in Acres)

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>State/UT</i>	<i>Area identified for distribution</i>	<i>Area distributed</i>	<i>Net area available</i>
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	57670	40388	17282
2.	Assam	27706	4000	23706
3.	Bihar	49492	6173	43319
4.	Gujarat	15241	5492	9749
5.	Haryana	74		74