

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEFENCE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1596  
ANSWERED ON:25.07.2002  
SUPPLY OF MEA  
VILAS BABURAO MUTTEMWAR

**Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the soldiers of Western Command are reported to have been supplied meat of dead animals by the private contractors engaged for supplying the rationed items to the army;
- (b) if so, whether any inquiry has been conducted in the matter;
- (c) if so, the out come thereof; and
- (d) the action taken against the contractors and the officers responsible for checking the food items supplied to the army?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) to (d): No, Sir. Only live and healthy animals/birds are slaughtered for supply to Defence Forces. Proper sorting and segregation of the live animals/birds is carried out before slaughter. The animals are inspected by a Veterinary Officer both before and after slaughter. Thereafter, the carcasses are duly stamped as 'fit for issue'.

The report mentioned in the Question probably relates to the news published in Nav Bharat Times, dated 29th May 2002, regarding an incident in Supply Depot, Delhi Cantt, where a supplier had attempted to mix dead fowls with live birds. However, the attempt of the supplier was thwarted by the vigilant Supply Depot staff. Action has been initiated to ban the firm or to remove it from the list of approved contractors of the Army Supply Corps.