

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6853
ANSWERED ON:09.05.2003
ESTABLISHMENT OF CONSUMER PROTECTION COUNCIL
NARESH KUMAR PUGLIA

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

- (a) whether the Consumer Protection (Amendment) Act, 2002 provides for establishment of Consumer Protection Council at District level;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the names of Districts where Consumer Protection Council have since been established, State-wise;
- (d) the target set for 2003-04 in this regard; and
- (e) the time by which Consumer Protection Councils are likely to be established in each District in the country ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. The provisions for establishment of the Consumer Protection Council at district level incorporated as new Sections vide Section 8A and 8B in the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 through the Consumer Protection (Amendment) Act, 2002 are reproduced below:-

"8A. The District Consumer Protection Council.- (1) The State Government shall establish for every district, by notification, a council to be known as the District Consumer Protection Council with effect from such date as it may specify in such notification.

(2) The District Consumer Protection Council (hereinafter referred to as the District Council) shall consist of the following members, namely:-

- (a) the Collector of the district (by whatever name called), who shall be its Chairman; and
 - (b) such number of other official and non-official members representing such interests as may be prescribed by the State Government.
- (3) The District Council shall meet as and when necessary but not less than two meetings shall be held every year.
- (4) The District Council shall meet as such time and place within the district as the Chairman may think fit and shall observe such procedure in regard to the transaction of its business as may be prescribed by the State Government.

8B. Objects of the District Council. – The objects of every District Council shall be to promote and protection within the district the rights of the consumers laid down in clauses (a) to (f) of section 6."

(c) to (e): It requires the amendment of the State Consumer Protection Rules to give effect to the amended provisions of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 which were brought into force with effect from 15th March, 2003. Therefore, it is too early to expect the establishment of District Consumer Protection Councils by the State Governments at district level.