

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3606
ANSWERED ON:18.04.2005
ILLEGAL SALE FROM FAIR PRICE SHOP
Dhanaraju Dr. K.

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that the Fair Price Shop owners compel the customers to buy such items which are not in the list for Distribution through the Public Distribution System (PDS) alongwith the ration;
- (b) if so, whether any surprise checks have been conducted in this regard;
- (c) if so, the details and the outcome thereof;
- (d) whether the Union Government proposes to issue some guidelines to the State Governments to curb this practice; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH)

(a), (b), (c), (d) & (e): No such instances have come to the notice of the Government. The implementation of Targetted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is the joint responsibility of the Central and the State Governments. While the Central Government is responsible for procurement, storage and transportation of foodgrains upto the Principal Distribution Centres of FCI in each State/UT, the identification of BPL families, issue of ration cards, issue of licences to the fair price shops and distribution of foodgrains to the beneficiaries is the responsibility of the respective State Governments/UTs. The System works through a vast net-work of 4.77 lakh fair price shops scattered all over the country. In order to increase the economic viability of the FPSs, they have been permitted to sell utility items from the shops. However, the Government has notified the PDS (Control) Order, 2001 on 31.08.2001, issued Citizen`s Charter to all the States and has advised them for involvement of Panchayati Raj Institutes etc. for better and efficient functioning of the system, and to check any such malpractices.