

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:808

ANSWERED ON:12.07.2004

MOBILE VANS FOR DISTRIBUTION OF FOODGRAINS AND KEROSENE OIL

Athawale Shri Ramdas

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

- (a) the number of mobile vans available alongwith the number of vans presently operating for the distribution of foodgrains, kerosene oil and other essential commodities in remote tribal areas of the country especially in Maharashtra;
- (b) the number of mobile vans still required for the purpose;
- (c) the financial assistance being provided by the Central Government for the said purpose;
- (d) whether financial assistance is also provided for the maintenance and operation of the said vehicles;
- (e) if not, whether grant will be provided by the Government for compensating the loss suffered by the State Government on account of this;
- (f) if so, by when it is likely to be made available; and
- (g) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

(a): A total of 1569 mobile vans/trucks were sanctioned to various States/UTs under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme `Purchase of mobile Vans/Trucks` for strengthening Public Distribution System from 1985-86 to 2001-2002. In Maharashtra, under Doorstep Delivery Scheme, i.e. supply of foodgrains to the Fair Price Shops by Government vehicles, 90 vehicles and 115 vehicles are presently operating in Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP) and Integrated Tribal Development Programme (ITDP) area respectively. However, kerosene is not delivered through these vehicles. Out of these 39 vehicles from ITDP area are not functioning.

(b): As reported by the Government of Maharashtra they require 76 more vehicles for the purpose.

(c),(d),(e),(f)&(g): The Centrally Sponsored Scheme `Purchase of mobile Vans/Trucks` has been discontinued from the Tenth Five Year Plan i.e. April, 2002, hence no financial assistance is being provided by the Central government at present.