

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:860  
ANSWERED ON:02.03.2010  
VIGILANCE COMMITTEES FOR TPDS  
Pandey Shri Ravindra Kumar

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

- (a) whether the Government has constituted vigilance committees and has also included Panchayati Raj Institutions and Urban Local Bodies in such Committees for bringing transparency in the functioning of the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has conducted a review of the performance of the above vigilance committees and Panchayati Raj Institutions; and
- (d) if so, the details and outcome thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a)to(d): Guidelines have been issued in June, 1999 for involvement of Panchayat Raj Institutions (PRIs) in the implementation of Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) wherein it has been suggested that the Gram Panchayat, Gram Sabhas should be encouraged to form Fair Price Shop (FPS) level Vigilance Committee. The Public Distribution System (Control) Order, 2001 also stipulates formation of Vigilance Committees on TPDS by the concerned State/UT Government at State, District, Block and FPS level. The constitution of the Vigilance Committees is one of the most important and key measures to bring transparency and social accountability in the operation of Targeted Public Distribution System. The Vigilance Committees are at present functioning at FPS, Block/Mandal/Taluk, District, State levels in most of the States/Union Territories. The main function of these Vigilance Committees is to monitor and ensure smooth functioning of TPDS and redressal of problems related with it. The performance of Vigilance Committees and PRIs involved in functioning of TPDS is reviewed by the respective State/UT Governments and reports thereon sent to Central Government from time to time and the information received is compiled. As per the information received from States/UTs, State-wise and year-wise status of constitution of the Vigilance Committees and details regarding functioning thereof is annexed.