

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5169
ANSWERED ON:27.04.2010
PAYMENT TO PDS CONTRACTORS
Ering Shri Ninong

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

- (a) whether the payments due to Public Distribution System (PDS) contractors have not been paid since the last few years; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor?

Answer

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

(a)&(b): No payment for transportation of PDS foodgrains from Food Corporation of India (FCI) depots onwards is made to PDS Contractors by the Central Government. However, the States/UTs which are predominantly hilly, with little or no railways and poor road communication, the Food Corporation of India (FCI) is required to open godown at Principal Distribution Centres (PDCs) wherever possible or reimburse to the State Governments/UTs the cost of transportation of foodgrains on actual basis, for lifting of foodgrains from base depots of FCI to the designated PDCs.