

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3919
ANSWERED ON:20.04.2010
QUALITY OF FOODGRAINS UNDER PDS
Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram

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

- (a) whether the complaints regarding the quantity and quality of the ration distributed under the Public Distribution System have been rising recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to constitute a Vigilance Committee to redress such complaints;
- (d) if so, whether the Government has held any discussion with the State Governments and consumer organizations to pave the way for constituting the said Vigilance Committee; and
- (e) if so, the details and the outcome thereof?

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 specific complaints have come to notice in recent times regarding the quantity and quality of ration distributed under Targeted Public Distribution System.

(c) to (e): The Public Distribution System (Control) Order, 2001 stipulates that meetings of the Vigilance Committees at various levels be held on a regular basis. The Vigilance Committees are at present functioning at Panchayat/Municipal Ward, Block/Taluk, District and State/Union Territories level in most of the States/Union Territories. State Governments/Union Territory Administrations have been requested to activate Vigilance Committees and re-constitute them, if not done already, by associating members from amongst the card holders as well as people's representatives. In the Model Citizens' Charter also, the constitution of Vigilance Committees by State Governments at the level of Panchayat/Municipal Ward, Block/Taluk, District and State/ Union Territories has been emphasized.