

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:2
ANSWERED ON:09.11.2010
IRREGULARITIES IN PDS
Sinh Dr. Sanjay,Vasava Shri Mansukhbhai D.

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

- (a) whether cases/complaints of alleged corruption/irregularities in the Public Distribution System (PDS) including allocation and supply to the States have been reported in the recent past;
- (b) if so, the number of such cases reported during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (c) whether punitive action has been taken against the erring persons/officials for such irregularities during the last three years;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the corrective steps taken to curb corruption in the Public Distribution System

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a),(b),(c),(d)& (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF THE STARRED QUESTION NO. 2 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 09.11.2010 IN THE LOK SABHA.

(a) & (b): Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is operated under the joint responsibility of the Central and the State/Union Territory (UT) Governments. Central Government is responsible for procurement, allocation and transportation of foodgrains upto the designated depots of the Food Corporation of India. The operational responsibilities for allocation of foodgrains within the States/UTs, identification of eligible Below Poverty Line (BPL) families, issuance of ration cards to them and supervision over and monitoring of functioning of Fair Price Shops (FPSs) rest with the concerned State/UT Government. Complaints have been received from individuals and organizations, as well as through press reports, regarding irregularities in implementation of TPDS.

The number of such complaints reported during last three years and the current year is as below:

Year No. of complaints

2007 99

2008 94

2009 169

2010 142
(upto
Sept.,
2010)

(c) & (d) Complaints received by the Central Government about implementation of TPDS are sent to the concerned State Governments/UT Administrations for inquiry and necessary action. Further action against officials/persons is taken by the respective State Government/UT Administration. Action has been taken by States/UTs against persons/officials for contravention of the provisions of PDS (Control) Order, 2001. The number of such persons/officials reported by the State Governments/UT Administrations in last three years and the current year is as below:

Year No of persons/officials against
whom punitive action taken

2007 6006

2008 6310

2009 3824

2010 2263
(upto
Sept., 2010)

(e): Government has issued directions to State Governments to streamline functioning of TPDS by enforcing provisions of PDS (Control) Order, 2001. Government has regularly reviewed and also has issued instructions to States/Union Territories to strengthen functioning of Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) by improving monitoring mechanism and vigilance, increased transparency in functioning of TPDS, adoption of revised Model Citizen's Charter use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) tools and improving the efficiency of Fair Price Shop operations.