

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3438  
ANSWERED ON:30.11.2010  
PDS FOODGRAINS TO NAXALS  
Muttemwar Shri Vilas Baburao

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

- (a) whether ration shopkeepers in many naxal affected areas give the ration meant for local people to the naxalites;
- (b) if so, the number of such complaints received by the Government during the last two years alongwith the action taken against such shopkeepers;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to cancel the licence of such ration shopkeepers;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the 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) to (e): Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is implemented jointly by Government of India and State/Union Territory (UT) Governments with sharing of responsibilities in this regard. The responsibilities for allocation of foodgrains within State/UT, identification of eligible Below Poverty Line (BPL) families, issuance of ration cards to them and distribution of allocated foodgrains to eligible ration card holders through Fair Price Shops and supervision of the functioning of Fair Price Shops, etc., rest with the State/UT Governments.

As provided in the Public Distribution System (Control) Order 2001, State Governments shall issue order under Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 for regulating the sale and distribution of the essential commodities and also issue licenses to the Fair Price Shop owners. PDS (Control) Order, 2001 also mandates the State and UT Governments to carryout all required action to ensure smooth functioning of TPDS. An offence committed in violation of the provisions of this Order is liable for penal action under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

Complaints as and when received by government from individuals and organizations, as well as through press reports about functioning of TPDS including leakages/diversion of TPDS commodities are sent to the concerned State/UT Governments for inquiry and action. However, no specific complaint has been received in this Department regarding giving of ration allotted under TPDS by fair price shop licensees to naxalites.