

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1072  
ANSWERED ON:01.03.2011  
QUALITY OF IMPORTED WHEAT  
Dashmuni Deepa

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

- (a) whether complaints have been received from various States with regard to supply of poor quality of imported wheat distributed under the Public Distribution System(PDS), Targeted Public Distribution System(TPDS) and other schemes during the year 2010-11;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number and nature of complaints received so far, State-wise;
- (c) whether the stock of foodgrains in several States is also of poor quality;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;and
- (e) the details of the remedial steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a) No Madam.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) & (d) No Madam. However, as reported by FCI, stock of 8881 tons of damaged foodgrains is available with FCI as on 1.2.2011. Similarly, 59174 tons and 23863 tons of damaged wheat is available with State agencies of Punjab & Haryana respectively as on 1.2.2011.

(e) FCI and State Governments/UT Administrations have been directed to take the following steps to ensure supply of good quality foodgrains under TPDS and other welfare schemes:

(i) Only good quality foodgrains free from insect infestation and conforming to PFA Standards are to be issued under TPDS and other welfare schemes.

(ii) Ample opportunities are to be provided to representatives of the State Governments/UT Administrations to check the quality of foodgrains prior to lifting their stocks from FCI godowns.

(iii) An officer not below the rank of Inspector is to be deputed from State Government to take the delivery of foodgrain stocks from FCI godowns.

(iv) Samples of foodgrains are to be collected and sealed from the stock of foodgrains to be issued jointly by FCI and State Food & Civil Supplies Department.

(v) Regular inspection to check the quality of foodgrains is to be carried out by the officers of State Governments/UT Administrations. In addition surprise checks are also carried out by officers of Quality Control Cells of the Ministry.

(vi) State Governments/ UT Administrations are to ensure that during transportation and storage at different stages in the distribution chain, the foodgrains retain their required quality specifications.

(vii) The State Governments, where the decentralized procurement is in operation, have to ensure that the foodgrains issued under TPDS and other welfare schemes meet the desired quality standards under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act.