

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2457

ANSWERED ON:16.08.2011

CORRUPTION IN FCI

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Ganeshrao

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

(a) whether several foodgrain scams have been reported in the country during the last decade owing to the absence of a check on the corruption rampant in the Food Corporation of India (FCI);

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) the number of persons found/involved therein alongwith the action taken against such persons; and

(d) the steps taken and the strategies devised to check corruption in FCI and avoid recurrence of such foodgrain scams in future?

Answer

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

(a) and (b): No, Madam. However, the following instances of serious irregularities were detected during last few years in the Food Corporation of India:-

Year	State	Irregularities noticed
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2004-05	Punjab	Acceptance of rice Beyond Rejection Limits (BRL) prescribed and Beyond Prevention of Food Adulteration Act (BPFA) limits was detected at some purchase centres in Punjab.
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2005-06	Arunachal Pradesh	Excess payment of Hill Transport Subsidy to the Arunachal Pradesh Govt. in violation of extant instructions of Govt. of India
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2010-11	Bihar	Misappropriation of stocks at 13 centres
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(c): The details of number of officials found involved in these irregularities alongwith action taken against such officials are as under :-

Year	State	No. of officials found involved and Action taken
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2004-05	Punjab	462 officials were found involved and departmental action taken against the identified officials.
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2005-06	Arunachal Pradesh	45 officials were found involved and departmental action taken against the identified officials. The primary delinquents have been dismissed/compulsorily retired from service.
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2010-11	Bihar	The matter stands referred to CBI for investigation.
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(d): FCI undertakes both punitive as well as preventive vigilance activities to check corruption as detailed below:-

1. Disciplinary inquiries are instituted based on complaints of malpractices and irregularities etc. received from various sources.
2. Regular and surprise checks of field activities are undertaken by officials deputed from Regional, Zonal and Headquarter offices.
3. Officials in doubtful integrity list are not posted in sensitive areas.
4. Rotation of officials in sensitive areas.
5. Modifications have been made in Model Tender Forms to increase transparency and competition.
6. Introduction of stringent penalty of recovery from contractors to deter manipulation/losses.