

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1586
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2011
CONSUMER WELFARE FUND
Chavan Shri Harischandra Deoram

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

- (a) whether the Government operates any scheme to provide funds to Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs)/Voluntary Organisations engaged in consumer affairs;
- (b) if so, the details of criteria adopted for making grants to such organisations;
- (c) the number of NGOs/Voluntary Organisations in various States who have received funds under the said scheme, Statewise;
- (d) the amount of grants given to these organisations during each of the last three years, year- wise; and
- (e) the extent to which the consumers are likely to benefit from the activities of these organisations?

Answer

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

(a) : Yes Madam. Financial Assistance is given out of Consumer Welfare Fund to NGOs and Voluntary Organisations engaged in Consumer Affairs.

(b) : The criteria for sanction of funds is laid down in detail, Consumer Welfare Fund Rules, 1992 and approved guidelines thereunder:-

- As per the guidelines the following are eligible for grants;

- Any agency/organization engaged in consumer welfare activities for a period of three years after registration under the Companies Act, 1956, Societies Registration Act, Cooperative Societies Act or any other law for the time being in force, Preference will be given to:-

(a) Organizations having an all India character and having reputation, experience and standing, or

(b) Organizations working in rural areas having larger participation of women and socially marginalized segments.

- An Industry or an Association of Industries as defined under Industrial Disputes Act 1947 which has been engaged in viable and fruitful research activities for a period of 5 years, which has made or is likely to make significant contribution in formulation of standard mark of products of mass consumption.

- Central and State Govt. Department/ Organizations /Undertakings /Consumers.

- Consumer groups for taking up Class action suits instituted to pursue common interest of consumers against one or a class of providers of goods or services.

Preference will be given to proposals which have a national level impact, are innovative in raising consumer awareness and are replicable.

The following items qualify for financial assistance:-

Recurring and Non-recurring expenses will be decided as per the individual Schemes.

However generally the following items may qualify for assistance:-

- Purchase of equipment/internet services/ (for activities other than short duration studies);

- Purchase of minimum furniture (for activity other than short duration studies);

- Charges for delivery of services;
- Other charges as may be considered necessary by the Standing Committee for the proper running of the programme/project;
- In special circumstances, Construction/purchase of office space or building by the Central/State/PSU. This will be subject to the conditions that the State Government/PSU as the case may be will share a part of the cost either by providing land for the building free of cost or meeting 30% of the cost of the building. However the Standing Committee may decide the quantum of assistance of fund needed on a case to case basis.
- Grants in aid towards administrative expenditure may be allowed to VCOs to ensure minimum staff structure and qualified personnel to improve their effectiveness and expand their activities, provided that, the grant should not exceed 25% of the approved administrative expenditure on pay and allowances of the personnel of the VCO and does not create any permanent staff liability.

This condition is however not applicable in the case of proposals for setting up Chairs and Centres of excellence in Indian Universities, National Law Colleges, IIMs and IITs etc.

The grants are released only for following objectives :-

- Production and distribution of literature and audio-visual material for spreading consumer literacy and awareness building programmes for consumer education;
- Setting up facilities for training and research in consumer education and related matters on national/regional basis;
- Community based rural awareness project; consumer clubs in schools/colleges;
- Setting up of complaint handling/counselling/guidance mechanisms like consumer guidance bureau;
- Setting up of Consumer Product Testing Laboratories;
- Building up infrastructure facilities for organising consumer education activities on a permanent basis at the district/taluk levels;
- Creation of chairs/centres of excellence in institutions/ universities of repute, projects for involving educational and other institutions of repute in furthering consumer awareness through research/seminars etc;
- Funding States/UTs to strengthen the Consumer Welfare Fund set up by them;
- For making available grant recommended by Bureau of Indian Standards for activities relating to standard marks, which may be considered essential by the Central Government, for the welfare of the Consumers;
- For meeting expenses on advocacy and class action suits;
- Projects not covered by the above, but which in the opinion of Standing Committee, address pressing social problems and maximize consumer welfare. In such cases the Committee will record reasons in writing.

(c) & (d): Reply given in Annexure A

(e) : The consumer greatly benefit out of awareness activities carried on by these organisations.

ANNEXURE-A

STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO PARTS (c) & (d) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1586 FOR 09.08.2011 REGARDING CONSUMER WELFARE FUND.

GRANTS FOR THE YEAR 2008-2009

Awareness Scheme

DELHI (Amount in Rs.)

Sl.No.	Name of Organization	Amount
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1.	FICCI, Tansen Marg, New Delhi	42,20,000
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2.	Vinod Kumar Memorial Charitable Trust, B-2/9, Model Town, Delhi	10,00,000
3	Voice Society, Jungpura. New Delhi	15,75,000

TOTAL 67,95,000

1 CONSUMER COORDINGATION COUNCIL(CCC), Noida, Uttar Pradesh 22,73,000

Total 22,73,000

WEST BENGAL

1. I land information Ltd. Calcutta, West Bengal 13,50,000

2. I land information Ltd. Calcutta, West Bengal 13,50,000

3. FCAWB, west Bengal 34,70,207

TOTAL 61,70,207

BIHAR

1. Saveria, Patna, Bihar 10,00,000

TOTAL 10,00,000

MAHARASTHRA

1. Council for fair business Practices, CFBP, Mumbai, Maharashtra 3,00,000

TOTAL 3,00,000

TAMILNADU

1. CONCERT Chennai, Tamilnadu 25,33,248

TOTAL 25,33,248

GRANTS FOR THE YEAR 2009-2010

Awareness Scheme

BIHAR

1. Saveria, Patna, Bihar 19,93,000

TOTAL 19,93000

DELHI

1. FICCI , Tansen Marg Delhi 46,69,955
2 Voice Society, 441 Jungpura Mathura Road 51,00,000
3 Voice Society, 441 Jungpura Mathura Road 11,25,000

4 BINTI, Flat No.-2-a /19 Second floor Bhawani Kunj
Appartment Bashant Kunj , Delhi 2,50,000

TOTAL 1,11,44,955

MAHARASHTRA

1. Consumer guidance Society Of India, Maharashtra 1,50,000

2 Council For Fair Business practices (CFBP),Great western
Building 130/132 Shaid Bhagat Shingh Road , Mumbai 53,00,000
3 Consumer guidance Society Of India, Maharashtra 1,00,000

TOTAL 55,50,000

RAJSTHAN

1. Cuts, Jaipur Rajsthan 24,16,130

TOTAL 24,16,130

TAMILNADU

1 CONCERT,Chennai. 8,44,416

TOTAL 8,44,416

UTTAR PRADESH

1 Cousumer Coordination Council, A-21-22,
Institutional Area,Sector -62, Noida 44,92,776

2 Cousumer Coordination Council, A-21-22,
Institutional Area,Sector -62, Noida 5,00,000

TOTAL 49,92,776

West Bengal

1 I Land Informatics Ltd.,58/114 Prince Anwar Shah
Road, Lake Garden Kalkatta 15,00,000

TOTAL 15,00,000

DCIC

UTTAR PRADESH

1 Smiriti sewa Sansthan 2,48,758
2 Santa Nav Nirman Samiti , Lucknow 2,50,000

TOTAL 4,98,758

GRANTS FOR THE YEAR 2010-2011

Awareness Scheme

Delhi

1. BINTI, Flat No.-2-a /19 Second floor Bhawani Kunj
Appartment Bashant Kunj , Delhi 2.25,000

2. BINTI Flat No.-2-a /19 Second floor Bhawani Kunj
Appartment Bashant Kunj , Delhi 3,00,000

3. Voice Society, 441 Jungpura Mathura Road, New Delhi 18,06,000

4. Voice Society, 441 Jungpura Mathura Road, New Delhi 90,00,000

5. Vinod Kumar Memorial Trust 10,00,000

6. FICCI,New Delhi 57,00,000

7 FICCI,New Delhi 43,72,500

Total 2,24,03,500

Gujarat

1. Consumer Education & Research Centre (CERC)
Suraksha Sankool Sarkhej, Gandhinagar Highway,
Thaltej Ahamdabad. 26,99,625

Madhya Pradesh

1. CCPRA, Indore, M.P.	5,00,000
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Rajasthan

1. CUTs , Jaipur Rajasthan	1,50,000
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2. CUTs , Jaipur Rajasthan	14,49,246
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Total	15,99,246
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Tamilnadu

1 Consumer Association of India ,Chennai	3,50,000
2 Concert , Chennai	1,29,00,000

Total	1,32,50,000
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West Bengal

1. I land informatics Ltd, West Bangal	15,00,000
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Uttar Pradesh

1. Consumer Coordination Council, Noida.	54,00,000
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Uttrakhand

1. Munda Dhunpur Kalyan Samiti, Uttakashi.	30,00,000
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