

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3196
ANSWERED ON:13.12.2011
DIVERSION OF LEVY SUGAR
Panda Shri Prabodh

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

- (a) whether there are reports of diversion of levy sugar released to the States for distribution under the Public Distribution System (PDS);
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the remedial steps taken to check such diversion;
- (c) whether the Government has commissioned any study/survey in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details and the outcome thereof?

Answer

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

(a) and (b): The Central Government allocates levy sugar quota in favour of 25 States/ UTs which are called direct allottee States and in favour of Food Corporation of India (FCI) for all North Eastern States (except Sikkim), the State of J&K and Island Territories of Andaman & Nicobar, and the UT of Lakshadweep which are called FCI operated States. The allocated levy sugar is lifted directly from the sugar mills by the allottee States/ UTs and by the FCI in respect of FCI operated States. The operational responsibility for distribution of levy sugar within the States/ UTs, identification of eligible PDS beneficiaries and supervision and monitoring of functioning of Fair Price Shops (FPSs) rest with the concerned State Governments/ UT Administrations. As and when complaints are received by the Central Government from individuals and organizations as well as through press reports, they are sent to State/UT Governments concerned for inquiry and appropriate action.

(c) and (d): Government has got the evaluation studies on functioning of TPDS. However, no specific study has been got conducted on the distribution of levy sugar in the TPDS.