

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6439

ANSWERED ON:15.05.2012

CONTRACT WORKERS IN FCI

Gowda Shri D.B. Chandre;Jeyadural Shri S. R.;Shankar Alias Kushal Tiwari Shri Bhisma

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

- (a) the total number of labourers deployed in various depots of the Food Corporation of India (FCI) alongwith their mode of deployment and payment, Statewise;
- (b) whether the Government had decided to discontinue the system of contract labour in FCI and implement Direct Payment System (DPS);
- (c) if so, whether the Contract labourers continue to be deployed and the DPS is yet to be implemented in various depots of FCI in violation of the said directives;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor alongwith the corrective steps taken in this regard;
- (e) whether the contract/DPS labourers have been raising several demands including regularisation in FCI; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto alongwith the steps taken to meet the legitimate demands of the labourers?

Answer

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

- (a): The number of labourers deployed (Region-wise) under various labour system may be seen at Annexure-A.
- (b) & (c): No, Madam. Recently, Ministry of Labour has notified 89 depots (including railheads) of Food Corporation of India (FCI) vide their notifications dated 23-4-2010 and 7-2-2011 prohibiting employment of Contract Labour there. Accordingly, FCI has discontinued the contract labour system in consonance with these notifications in its owned depots. However, the contract labour system is still operational in FCI depots in terms of Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970. There is no proposal for implementation of Direct Payment System in the notified depots.
- (d): Does not arise.
- (e) & (f): Yes, Madam. The main demand of the Unions pertains to abolition of Contract Labour system in all the depots of FCI and regularisation of the ex-contractor workers as Departmental workers. Contract Labour system is legally viable, operationally and financially beneficial to the FCI and suo-moto action for abolition of contract labour system in all depots of FCI is not practically possible. However, this Department has given approval for introduction of No Work No Pay System in the notified depots owned by FCI.