

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:129

ANSWERED ON:13.03.2012

CORRUPTION IN PDS

Dhruvanarayana Shri R. ;Ganpatrao Shri Jadhav Prataprao;Gavit Shri Manikrao Hodlya;Joshi Dr. Murl Manohar;Kumar Shri Kaushalendra;Laguri Shri Yashbant Narayan Singh;Mahto Shri Baidyanath Prasad;Ramkishun Shri ;Reddy Shri Modugula Venugopala ;Singh Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad;Singh Shri Rajiv Ranjan (Lalan);Sivasami Shri C.;Tudu Shri Laxman;Yadav Shri M. Anjan Kumar

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

- (a) the details regarding allocation and offtake of various commodities under the Public Distribution System (PDS) during each of the last three years, State-wise;
- (b) whether cases/complaints of alleged corruption/irregularities in the PDS including diversion, replacement of grains by poor quality foodgrains etc. have been reported during the said period;
- (c) if so, the number of such cases reported and the estimated losses suffered therein;
- (d) whether the Government has formulated any action plan including SMS and e-mail alerts regarding availability of foodgrain stocks to check corruption and improve and strengthen the PDS; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

(PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a) Statement showing State-wise allocation and offtake of foodgrains (wheat & rice) under Targeted Public Distribution System from 2008-09 to 2011-12 (upto January, 2012) is at Annexure-I.

(b) and (c): There have been reports about irregularities in implementation of TPDS in certain regions/States in the country. As and when complaints are received by the Government from individuals and organizations as well as through press reports, they have been sent to State/UT Governments concerned for inquiry and appropriate action. A statement indicating State-wise number of complaints on TPDS received in the Department from 2009 to 2012 (upto January, 2012) is at Annexure-II.

(d) and (e): Strengthening and streamlining of the TPDS is a continuous process. Government of India has requested all States/UTs to take up end-to-end computerization of TPDS in a time-bound manner to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the TPDS. Some States/UTs have reported issuance of SMS/e-mail alerts for tracking the movement and delivery of TPDS commodities, which will help in checking leakages/diversion of foodgrains. Government has also regularly reviewed and has issued instructions to States/Union Territories to strengthen functioning of TPDS by improving monitoring mechanism and vigilance, increased transparency in functioning of TPDS, adoption of revised Model Citizen's Charter and improving the efficiency of Fair Price Shop operations.