

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:507
ANSWERED ON:13.08.2012
SALE OF CANTEEN ITEMS IN OPEN MARKET
Ray Shri Rudramadhab

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken cognisance of sale of liquor/groceries and other items of the defence canteens in open market;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to set up a Committee to ensure sale of only quality/branded products in defence canteens;
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps proposed to monitor receipts and expenditure and make mandatory the audit of account of each defence canteen to check illegal sale of liquor/groceries/other items from canteen to open markets?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

- (a) & (b): Sale of liquor/groceries to entitled customers of Defence canteens is through Unit Run Canteens (URCs). To stop irregularities, smart cards with confidential PIN (Personal Identification Number) have been introduced so that authorized persons alone can avail canteen facilities. Monetary limits for purchase of goods have been fixed and are strictly being followed. Surprise checks are carried out by the administrative/security staff of the respective canteens.
- (c) & (d): Products are enlisted in the Canteen Stores Department (CSD) as per the needs of consumers. CSD ensures that only quality products are introduced.
- (e) The URCs are audited by Chartered Accountants on annual basis.