

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2634
ANSWERED ON:28.08.2012
MONITORING OF FOODGRAIN SUPPLY
Patel Shri Lalubhai

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

- (a) whether scams involving alleged misappropriation of foodgrains allotted by the Government under the Public Distribution System (PDS) have been reported from several States in the recent past;
- (b) if so, whether any monitoring Committee has been constituted by the Government to monitor the foodgrains being supplied to each State in order to check misuse/diversion;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the monitoring Committee has been able to unearth the foodgrains scams during each of the last three years; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

Answer

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

(a) to (e): There have been reports about irregularities in implementation of Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) including diversion/leakages of foodgrains, prevalence of bogus/ineligible ration cards, etc. in some regions/States in the country. As and when complaints are received by the Government from individuals and organizations as well as through press reports, these are referred to the State Governments /UT Administrations concerned for inquiry and appropriate action.

A Nine Point Action Plan for curbing the leakages/diversion of foodgrains under TPDS was evolved in July, 2006 in consultation with the State/Union Territory (UT) Governments. Further, to improve functioning of TPDS, Government has been regularly issuing advisories and holding conferences wherein State/UT Governments are requested for continuous review of lists of Below Poverty Line (BPL) and Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families, ensuring timely availability of foodgrains at Fair Price Shops (FPSs), ensuring greater transparency in functioning of TPDS and improved monitoring and vigilance at various levels, adoption of revised Model Citizen's Charter, monthly certification of foodgrains at FPS etc. Utilisation Certificates (UCs) for the foodgrains allocated to State/UT Governments are obtained regularly from them.

In view of the above, a separate Committee for monitoring the allocation of foodgrains has not been constituted.