

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2813
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2012
FUNDS FOR CONSUMER ORGANISATIONS
Gandhi Shri Dilip Kumar Mansukhlal

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

- (a) the number of voluntary consumer organisations functioning in Maharashtra;
- (b) whether the Union Government has provided assistance to such organisations during the last three years;
- (c) if so, the details thereof along with the criteria adopted for allocation of funds to the voluntary consumer organisations;
- (d) whether the Government has received some complaints regarding misutilisation of funds by these organisations during the above period; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) to (c): A large number of voluntary consumer organization are functioning in the State of Maharashtra. Out of which only following two organisations were given financial assistance during last three years

S.No.	Name of Organisation	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
1.	Consumer Guidance Society of India, Mumbai	Rs.2,50,000		Rs.1,35,000
2.	Bharatiya Dalit Vikas Parishad, Aurangabad.		Rs.5,00,000	

The criteria for sanction of funds is laid down in Consumer Welfare Fund Rules,1992 and guidelines approved thereunder.

As per the guidelines any agency/organization engaged in consumer welfare activities for a period of three years after registration under the Companies Act, 1956, Societies Registration Act, Cooperative Societies Act or any other law for the time being in force is eligible for grant-in-aid from Consumer Welfare Fund.

Preference will be given to:-

- (i) Organizations having an all India character and having reputation, experience and standing, or
- (ii) Organizations working in rural areas having larger participation of women and socially marginalized segments.

(d): No, Madam.

(e): Does not arise in view of `d` above.