

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1279  
ANSWERED ON:05.03.2013  
QUALITY OF PDS FOODGRAINS  
Singh Shri Dushyant

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

- (a) whether complaints regarding supply of poor quality foodgrains under Public Distribution System (PDS) and Mid-day Meal Scheme (MDM) have been received during the last three years and the current year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto and the corrective steps taken in this regard along with the details of the mechanism put in place to monitor the supply of foodgrains; And
- (c) the action taken to disinfect godowns holding foodgrains for PDS and MDM along with the place where the stocks are kept during such exercise?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b) Details of complaints received about supply of poor quality foodgrains under Public Distribution System (PDS) and action taken on the complaints during last 3 years and current year are at Annexure-I.

Under the Scheme of Mid Day Meal (MDM) instances of poor quality of foodgrains have been received in schools in some States during the years 2010 and 2011 during a study through "joint review meetings" for checking the implementation of MDM scheme. This was brought to the notice of Department of Food and Civil Supplies in the concerned State Governments as well as Food Corporation of India (FCI) in the debriefing sessions. Joint inspection by District MDM authorities and FCI are conducted as per the laid down procedure to ensure that foodgrains being lifted are of Fair Average Quality. Procedure laid down and instructions issued for supply of good quality foodgrains under PDS to State Governments and FCI are at Annexure-II

(c) Foodgrains are stored by adopting proper scientific code of storage practices. Prophylactic (spraying of insecticides) and curative treatments (fumigation) are carried out regularly and timely in godowns for the control of insect pests. Effective rat control measures, both in covered godowns as well in Cover & Plinth (CAP) storage are taken in order to disinfect the foodgrain during storage.