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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3109 ANSWERED ON:08.12.2009 PROCUREMNT OF GOOD QUALITY FOODGRAINS Mahtab Shri Bhartruhari;Masram Shri Basori Singh;Shankar Alias Kushal Tiwari Shri Bhisma

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

(a) whether Fair Average Quality (FAQ) norms have been issued to ensure that the Government agencies purchase only good quality foodgrains;

(b) if so, the details of the norms issued thereof;

(c) whether several complaints of violation of the said norms and procurement of substandard quality foodgrains have been received by the Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the remedial action taken thereon; and

(e) the action taken against officers held responsible for such violation of norms?

Answer

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

(a): Yes, Madam.

(b): The details of these norms in respect of wheat and rice for Rabi Marketing Season 2009-10 and Kharif Marketing Season 2009-10 are given in Annexures-I and II respectively.

(c),(d)&(e): No, Madam. Procurement agencies are expected to strictly adhere to specifications during procurement of foodgrains. If during inspection by various authorities, some quantities of foodgrains are found not conforming to specifications prescribed, immediate remedial measures such as replacement of stocks etc. are taken. The officials found responsible for procurement of foodgrains not conforming to specifications are withdrawn from the procurement and disciplinary action is taken against them.