

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4825

ANSWERED ON:23.04.2013

QUALITY OF PDS FOODGRAINS

Mahato Shri Narahari;Ponnam Shri Prabhakar;Roy Shri Nripendra Nath;Singh Shri Vijay Bahadur

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

- (a) whether complaints regarding the quality of foodgrains being distributed through the Public Distribution System (PDS) have been received by the Government during the last three years and the current year, till date;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the corrective steps taken thereon, State-wise;
- (c) whether lapses/negligence in inspection, storage, maintenance work and quality control measures have been detected;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the action being taken against those held guilty;
- (e) whether the beneficiaries have been empowered to reject the poor quality foodgrains supplied to them under PDS; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

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

(a),(b),(c) &(d) Yes Madam, Some complaints have been received about supply of poor quality foodgrains under Public Distribution System (PDS) during last 3 years and current year. Details of complaints received and action taken on the complaints are at Annexure.

(e) & (f) Under PDS (Control) Order, 2001 there is no specified provision to reject the poor quality foodgrains supplied under PDS. However, the procedure of joint inspection and supply of sealed samples of the stocks before issue to State Governments by FCI is to be followed and State Governments have to ensure that stocks as issued from FCI godowns (State Government godowns in case of DCP States) are not replaced by stocks of inferior quality during storage and transit till delivery to ration card holder. Samples of foodgrains are to be displayed at fair price shops for the benefit of ration card holders. There is a mechanism for redressal of grievances/ lodging complaints with respect to quality and quantity of foodgrains under PDS.