

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:887
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2013
FOOD COMMISSION
Sugavanam Shri E.G.

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

- (a) whether the Government has any proposal to set up a Food Commission;
- (b) if so, the details and the proposed functions thereof; and
- (c) the time by which the said Commission is likely to be setup?

Answer

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

(a) to (c) The National Food Security Act, 2013, (NFSA) notified by the Government on 10.09.2013, does not contain provision for setting up of a Food Commission by the Central Government. The Act however provides that every State Government shall, by notification, constitute a State Food Commission, consisting of a Chairperson, five Members and a Member-Secretary, for the purpose of monitoring and review of implementation of the Act. The Act further provides that the State Government may, if considers it necessary, by notification, designate any statutory commission or a body to exercise the powers and perform the functions of the State Food Commission.

The functions of the State Food Commission, as prescribed in the Act, are as under:

- (a) monitor and evaluate the implementation of this Act, in relation to the State;
- (b) either suo motu or on receipt of complaint inquire into violations of entitlements provided under Chapter II;
- (c) give advice to the State Government on effective implementation of this Act;
- (d) give advice to the State Government, their agencies, autonomous bodies as well as non-governmental organisations involved in delivery of relevant services, for the effective implementation of food and nutrition related schemes, to enable individuals to fully access their entitlements specified in this Act;
- (e) hear appeals against orders of the District Grievance Redressal Officer;
- (f) prepare annual reports which shall be laid before the State Legislature by the State Government.

As per provisions of the Act, State Governments are required to frame necessary rules relating to State Food Commission and constitute it, or designate any statutory commission or a body to exercise powers and perform the functions of the Commission.