

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5599
ANSWERED ON:28.04.2015
DOCUMENTS IN REGIONAL LANGUAGES
Chandrappa Shri B.N.

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

- (a) whether the Consumer Protection Act is designed to ensure fair competition and free flow of information about the goods and services purchased by consumers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether most of the products including medicines and bank passbooks are not made available in regional Indian languages which is detrimental to the rights of the consumers; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to provide free and fair information to the consumers in all Indian languages?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN)

- (a) & (b): The Consumer Protection Act, 1986 provides a consumer the right to be informed about the quality, quantity, potency, purity, standard and price of goods or services.
- (c) & (d): In so far as drugs are concerned, the manufacture, sell and distribution of drugs is regulated under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and Rules 1945. The said Rules require various statutory details on the label of the drugs. However, labelling of drugs in regional Indian languages is not mandatory in the said Rules.
- As regards bank pass books, the Reserve Bank of India has issued a circular in July, 2011 to all the scheduled banks to the effect that in order to ensure that banking facilities percolate to the vast sections of the population, banks should make available all printed material used by retail customers including account opening forms, pay-in-slips, passbooks etc., in trilingual form i.e., English, Hindi and the concerned Regional Language.