

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4504  
ANSWERED ON:21.04.2015  
CONSUMER FUND  
Kalvakuntla Smt. Kavitha;Solanki Dr. Kirit Premjibhai

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

- (a) whether under the Central Excise and Salt Act, a fund has been created for consumer welfare;
- (b) if so, the details and the objectives thereof along with its corpus and the allocation made therefrom during each of the last three years, State-wise;
- (c) whether there is any scheme to provide assistance from the consumer welfare fund for setting up consumer clubs in schools; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof indicating the quantum of funds allocated, State-wise?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b) : Yes, Madam. The Central Excise and Salt Act. 1944 (I of 1944) was amended in 1991 to enable the Central Government to create the Consumer Welfare Fund (CWF) where the money that is not refundable to the manufacturers, etc. shall be credited. The money credited to the Fund is to be utilized by the Central Government (Department of Consumer Affairs) for the welfare of the consumers in accordance with the Rules framed. The Fund has been set up by the Department of Revenue and is being operated by the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution, Department of Consumer Affairs. The overall objective of the Consumer Welfare Fund is to provide financial assistance to promote and protect the welfare of the consumers and strengthen the consumer movement in the country. Funds are also released from the Consumer Welfare Fund to State/UTs towards creating a corpus fund. The allocation of funds under C.W.F. during the last three years is as follows :-

Financial Year	Revised Estimates (Rupees in Crore)
2012-2013	31.80
2013-2014	45.80
2014-2015	15.00

(c) & (d) : The Consumer Clubs scheme was launched in 2002 according to which a Consumer club can be set up in each Middle/High/Higher Secondary School/College affiliated to a Government recognised Board or University. A grant of Rs.10,000/- per consumer club is admissible under this scheme. This scheme has been decentralized and transferred to the Government of States/UTs with effect from 1st April 2004. Proposal can be submitted under the scheme to the Nodal Officer in the Food, PD & Consumer Affairs Department of respective States/UTs by eligible organisations/Voluntary Consumer Organisations (VCOs). Funds are transferred from the Consumer Welfare Fund to the Nodal Officer in the State on receipt of list of schools from the States. No separate allocation of funds is made for setting up of consumer clubs.