

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:22

ANSWERED ON:25.11.2014

STREAMLINING OF PDS

Rao Shri Rayapati Sambasiva;Udasi Shri Shivkumar Chanabasappa

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

(a) whether complaints have been received regarding irregularities/ diversion/ corruption in the Public Distribution System(PDS) and if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government has conducted any review/assessment of PDS in the recent past and if so, the details and the outcome thereof along with the action taken thereon;

(c) whether the Government has taken or proposes to take any fresh steps for strengthening and streamlining of PDS and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether the Government has put in place any mechanism for disposal of complaints regarding corruption in PDS and if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN)

(a), (b), (c)&(d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF THE STARRED QUESTION NO. 22 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 25.11.2014 IN THE LOK SABHA.

(a): There have been complaints about irregularities in the functioning of the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) in some States/regions in the country. As the operational responsibility for implementation of TPDS within the State/UT rests with the concerned State/UT Governments, as and when complaints are received by the Government from individuals and organizations as well as through press reports, these are referred to the State/UT Governments concerned for inquiry and appropriate action. A State/UT-wise statement indicating number of such complaints received during the last three years and the current year is Annexed. Further, the National Food Security Act (NFSA) which has been notified on 10th September, 2013, provides for a comprehensive grievance redressal mechanism including District Grievance Redressal Officer for each district and State Food Commission. Besides, the Act contains provisions for transparency and accountability in TPDS, including disclosure of records of TPDS, conduct of social audit, setting up of Vigilance Committees at the State, District, Block and Fair Price Shop (FPS) level etc.

(b): No, Madam.

(c): Strengthening and streamlining of TPDS is a continuous endeavour. The NFSA also contains measures for reforms in TPDS, to be undertaken progressively by the Central and State Governments. These reforms inter alia include doorstep delivery of foodgrains to the TPDS outlets, application of information and communication technology tools including end to end computerisation, preference to public institutions/bodies in licensing of FPSs, etc.

(d): Reply is covered in part (a) above.