

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3491
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08th AUGUST, 2017

SELLING OF SPURIOUS RICE

3491. SHRIMATI RANJANBEN BHATT:
SHRI SADASHIV LOKHANDE:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the selling of damaged rice which is harmful for health is going on in various parts of the country, if so, the details of the steps taken or likely to be taken by the Government to check it;
- (b) the time by which the remedial steps are likely to be taken and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government is aware of the complaints of large scale black marketing of wheat and other foodgrains in fair price shops;
- (d) if so, the steps taken to arrest the culprits; and
- (e) the number of persons arrested in such raids and the action taken against them?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE FOR CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)

(a) & (b): There is a well-defined procedure for sale of damaged foodgrains from Central Pool Stocks in Food Corporation of India (FCI). Foodgrains accrued as damaged/ non-issuable in storage are sold to the parties registered with FCI for purchase of damaged foodgrains through tender for non-human consumption uses such as Feed-I, Feed-II, Feed-III, Industrial use, Manure and Dumping. As per terms and conditions of the tender, failure on the part of buyers to render full and satisfactory accounts of the use of damaged stocks will constitute a breach of contract and in such events, the security deposits made by the buyer would be forfeited without prejudice to the right of FCI to initiate legal proceedings against the buyer. The State Government and FCI offices are also informed about the stock sold to the parties and requested to monitor their use for ensuring that damaged / non-issuable foodgrains are not misused for human consumption.

(c), (d) & (e): Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is operated under the joint responsibility of Central and State/UT Governments. Central Government is responsible for procurement, storage, allocation and transportation of foodgrains upto the designated depots of the FCI. The operational responsibilities for allocation and distribution of foodgrains within the States/UTs, identification of eligible beneficiaries, issuance of ration cards to them and supervision over and monitoring the functioning of Fair Price Shops (FPSs) etc. rest with the concerned State/UT Governments.

The complaints about irregularities in the functioning of the TPDS such as, issuance of cards to ineligible persons, distribution, leakages, diversion, etc. in the States/UTs are received by the Government from individuals, organizations and press reports. These complaints are referred to the concerned State/UT Governments for appropriate action. State/UT-wise details of the complaint received during the last three years and current year is at Annex.

Under TPDS Control Order, 2015, the State/UT Governments are responsible for implementing TPDS and are competent to take action against those indulging in malpractices in TPDS by invoking provisions of relevant clauses of the said Order. An offence committed in violation of its provisions is liable for penal action under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

ANNEXURE**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (c), (d) & (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO 3491 TO BE ANSWERED ON 8th AUGUST, 2017 IN LOK SABHA****STATE/UT-WISE DETAILS OF THE COMPLAINT RECEIVED DURING THE LAST THREE YEARS AND CURRENT YEAR (upto 30.06.2017)**

S. No.	State/UTs	2014	2015	2016	2017
1	Andhra Pradesh	4	8	5	3
2	Arunachal Pradesh	1	1	-	-
3	Assam	5	34	32	8
4	Bihar	55	106	81	52
5	Chhattisgarh	3	6	9	2
6	Delhi	78	113	91	51
7	Goa	-	-	1	-
8	Gujarat	16	8	12	1
9	Haryana	26	35	34	27
10	Himachal Pradesh	-	4	5	3
11	J&K	-	5	3	2
12	Jharkhand	16	32	29	10
13	Karnataka	6	16	22	17
14	Kerala	1	16	22	10
15	Madhya Pradesh	7	17	24	12
16	Maharashtra	25	48	62	20
17	Manipur	1	6	4	1
18	Meghalaya	2	7	9	-
19	Mizoram	-	-	-	1
20	Nagaland	3	-	2	2
21	Orissa	8	22	43	9
22	Punjab	5	10	7	1
23	Rajasthan	31	33	59	35
24	Sikkim	-	-	-	-
25	Tamil Nadu	7	22	33	10
26	Telangana	-	10	1	2
27	Tripura	-	-	1	-
28	Uttarakhand	8	24	21	14
29	Uttar Pradesh	137	197	461	223
30	West Bengal	11	32	29	31
31	A&N Island	-	-	1	-
32	Chandigarh	3	6	2	-
33	D& N Haveli	1	-	1	-
34	Puducherry	-	-	-	-
	TOTAL	460	818	1106	547
