

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:752
ANSWERED ON:25.07.2003
CONSUMER AWARENESS
PADAMSEN CHAUDHARY

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

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- (a) whether the Government propose to involve school students to boost the consumer awareness campaign in the country; and (
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI S L MAHARIA)

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has recently introduced a scheme on consumer clubs to involve students to boost the consumer awareness campaign in the country. The objectives of the scheme are to educate children about the rights of the consumers as provided in the Consumer Protection Act, 1986, to mobilise youngsters by instilling in them the spirit of protection of consumer rights; to impart knowledge about the role of the consumers in protection of their rights and to strengthen the consumer movement in the country. According to the Scheme, a Consumer Club shall be set up in a middle/high/higher secondary school which is affiliated to a Government recognised Board and shall consist of a minimum 50 members. Each Consumer Club shall be in the charge of an active teacher in the concerned school. A group of not less than 20 and not more than 50 consumer clubs in one or more geographically contiguous districts will be serviced by a co-ordinating agency. A well established educational institution, a non governmental voluntary organisation or a professional body shall be designated as the Coordinating Agency.

The Department of Consumer Affairs shall provide financial support @ Rs. 10,000/- per annum per consumer club to the coordinating agency from the Consumer Welfare Fund. The coordinating agency will assist and monitor the functioning of each club.