

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4598
ANSWERED ON:25.04.2005
CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT, 1986
Chaudhary Shri Pankaj;Gohain Shri Rajen;Murmu Shri Hemlal

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to amend the Consumers Protection Act, 1986 to make it more stringent in order to ensure implementation of the decisions made under the said Act;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government for providing better infrastructure to the consumer courts?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN)

(a) & (b): A Working Group has been constituted in the Ministry to suggest amendments to the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 to make it more effective and purposeful.

(c) : It is the responsibility of the State Governments to establish consumer forums at the State and district level and to provide all the required infrastructure for their effective functioning. However, in order to supplement the efforts of the State Governments, Central Govt. has provided financial assistance of Rs. 10.20 crores during the year 2004-2005 covering certain States for the present for strengthening the infrastructure of consumer forums. Earlier, Rs. 61.80 crores were given to all the States/UTs during the period 1995-99 for the same purpose. The Ministry has also launched a scheme of "Computerisation and Computer Networking of Consumer Forums in the Country" through National Informatics Centre (NIC) on turn key basis to improve their efficiency and functioning.