

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3875
ANSWERED ON:19.12.2005
INSPECTION OF FOODGRAINS
Reddy Shri Karunakara G.

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

(a) the procedure laid down for inspecting/checking of the foodgrains in Food Corporation of India (FCI) godowns before lifting from FCI depots for issue under PDS; and

(b) the steps taken by the Union Government to ensure that only sound stocks, fit for human consumption, are issued for distribution under PDS?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH)

(a) & (b): The procedure laid down for inspecting/checking the foodgrains before lifting from FCI depots and steps taken by the Government to ensure that only sound stocks, fit for human consumption are issued for distribution under PDS are as under:-

(i) Only Fair Average Quality (FAQ) foodgrains conforming to PFA standards and free from insect infestation are issued to State Governments/U.T. Administrations or their authorized nominees from the FCI depots for distribution under TPDS.

(ii) Samples are drawn and sealed jointly by the officers of the FCI and the concerned State Governments or their authorized nominees from the issuing lots and type samples are issued to the State Governments/UT Administrations/their nominees for displaying the same at the Fair Price Shops (FPSs) for the benefit of the consumers.

(iii) Ample opportunities are provided to the officials of the State Governments/UT Administrations to inspect the stocks prior to lifting from the FCI godowns.

(iv) Instructions have been issued to all the State Governments/UT Administrations that an officer not below the rank of inspector should be deputed to check the quality of foodgrains before lifting from the FCI godowns.

(v) The officers of the State Governments/UT Administrations and the Ministry pay surprise checks to the FPSs, to over see the quality of foodgrains being distributed through TPDS.

(vi) The officers of the Department designated as 'Area Officers' for monitoring the TPDS work in the respective States/UTs also undertake visits to the storage depots and the FPSs, during their visit to the States to check the quality of foodgrains being issued.