

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2165  
ANSWERED ON:14.08.2006  
QUALITY OF FOODGRAINS UNDER AAY  
Barman Shri Ranen

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

- (a) whether any complaint regarding supply of sub-standard quality foodgrains under the Public Distribution System (PDS) and Antyodaya Anna Yojana has been received by the Government particularly from West Bengal;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action taken by the Government to ensure supply of good quality foodgrains under the said schemes?

**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) and (c): No Sir. The Government has not received any complaint particularly from West Bengal in the recent past regarding supply of inferior quality foodgrains under Public Distribution System (PDS) and Antyodaya Anna Yojana. However, to ensure that only good quality foodgrains for PDS and Other Welfare Schemes are issued to State Governments/UT Administrations, following steps have been taken by the Government:

- (i) Ample opportunities are provided to the officials of the State Governments/UT Administrations to inspect the stocks prior to lifting from the Food Corporation of India (FCI) godowns.
- (ii) 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.
- (iii) The samples of foodgrains are to be jointly drawn and sealed by the officers of the State Governments/UT Administrations and the FCI from the stocks for display at the counters of Fair Price Shops (FPSs) for the benefit of consumers.
- (iv) The officers of the State Governments and this Ministry pay surprise checks to the FPSs, to oversee the quality of foodgrains being distributed through TPDS.
- (v) The officers of this Ministry designated as `Area Officers` for monitoring the TPDS work in the respective States also undertake visits to the storage depots and the FPSs, during their visit to the States to check the quality of foodgrains being issued.