

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3619
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2006
STRENGTHENING OF CONSUMER COURTS
Tripathy Shri Braja Kishore

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

- (a) whether the Government provides financial assistance to States for strengthening the infrastructure of the consumer courts;
- (b) if so, the details of assistance provided to various States during the last three years and the current year;
- (c) the names of States which have so far failed to submit utilization certificate against assistance provided during the last three years;
- (d) the action taken by the Government against such States; and
- (e) the time by which the said States are likely to complete the work of strengthening of the infrastructure in the respective States?

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) : As per provisions of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986, it is the responsibility of the States to establish the District Fora and State Commission in their respective States, providing requisite infrastructure to these institutions to enable them to discharge their functions in accordance with the provisions of the Act. However, to supplement the efforts of the States in strengthening the infrastructure of consumer fora, the Central Government has provided financial assistance in the past. An amount of Rs. 61.80 crores was released to all the States/Union Territories under the scheme of One Time Grant of 1995 to strengthen the infrastructure of 458 District Fora & 32 State Commissions that had been established by 1995. An amount of Rs. 10.20 crores was further released to 13 States under the scheme of One Time Grant of 2004-05 for strengthening the infrastructure of 53 District Fora & 3 State Commissions established after 1995. In the current financial year 2006-07, grants amounting to Rs. 20.34 crores have been released / sanctioned till 13.12.2006 as first instalment to 9 eligible States under the scheme of Integrated Project on Consumer Protection to meet critical gaps in infrastructure of Consumer Fora.

(b) : Details are furnished below:

(Rupees in lacs)

2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
			(till 13.12.2006)

NIL 1020.00 NIL 2033.96

State-wise details of grant released under the scheme of One Time Grant of 2004-05 is at Annexure-I. The State-wise details of grant released in the current financial year till 13.12.2006 under the scheme of Integrated Project on Consumer Protection is at Annexure-II.

(c) : The States are required to completely utilize the amount of grant received under the scheme of One Time Grant of 2004-05 by 31.03.2007.

(d) & (e): Do not arise in view of (c) above.

ANNEXURE-I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3619 FOR 18//12/2006

Statement showing the State/UT-wise release of grant during 2004-05 under the scheme of One Time Grant of 2004-05

[Rs. in Lacs]
Name of the State Amount of grant released

Andhra Pradesh 105.00
Bihar 45.00
Jharkhand 75.00
Haryana 45.00
Madhya Pradesh 105.00
Chhattisgarh 75.00
Maharashtra 45.00
Mizoram 75.00
Nagaland 15.00
Orissa 270.00
Rajasthan 45.00
Uttaranchal 75.00
West Bengal 45.00
Total: 1020.00

ANNEXURE-II

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b) OF LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3619 FOR 18//12/2006

Statement showing the State/UT-wise sanction/release of grant under the scheme of
Integrated Project on Consumer Protection

(Status as on 13.12.2006)

[Rs. in Lacs]

Name of the State Amount of grant released

Andhra Pradesh 348.15
Arunachal Pradesh 257.80
Chhattisgarh 298.22
Himachal Pradesh 161.27
Kerala 265.50
Madhya Pradesh 449.52
Mizoram 141.00
Sikkim 67.30
Tripura 45.20
Total 2033.96