

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:268

ANSWERED ON:08.12.2009

SUPPLY OF DAMAGED FOODGRAINS

Harnsrajbhai Shri Radadiya Vitthalbhai ;Singh Rajkumari Ratna

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

(a) whether there are reports on the supply of poor quality and damaged foodgrains unfit for human consumption to the beneficiaries under the Public Distribution System /Targeted Public Distribution System /Antyodaya Aana Yojana in place of good quality foodgrains procured by the Government due to the irregularities in storage, transport and delivery system;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the remedial measures being taken in this regard;

(c) whether any machinery is in place to check the irregularities including swapping of foodgrains during their storage and delivery; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a), (b), (c) & (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF THE STARRED QUESTION NO.268 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 08.12.2009 IN THE LOK SABHA.

(a)&(b): Four complaints were received by the Government during 2009 regarding supply of poor quality foodgrains through the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS). The details are as follows:

(i) A complaint was received in January, 2009 from Shri Parshottam Rupala, Hon'ble M.P. about poor quality of foodgrains being issued to BPL families in Gujarat without specifying any location. Instructions were issued to Food Corporation of India to ensure the supply of good quality foodgrains to BPL families in Gujarat State.

(ii) A copy of complaint made to Government of West Bengal was received in May, 2009 from All Bengal Fair Price Shop Dealers' Welfare Association that poor quality stocks of wheat were issued in PDS. This complaint too was general in nature. FCI was directed to ensure the supply of good quality wheat under PDS in West Bengal.

(iii) A complaint was received in June, 2009 from Shri Jai Kishan, Hon'ble M.L.A. of Delhi about supply of poor quality wheat from FCI depot at Delhi. The matter was investigated. Based on the findings of the investigation, FCI was asked to take immediate remedial measures and take appropriate action against officials responsible.

(iv) A complaint was received from Hon'ble Minister of Food, Civil Supplies & Animal Husbandry, Government of Kerala in September, 2009 about quality of rice supplied against special allotment. On investigation, it was found that inferior quality stocks were not issued by FCI.

(c)&(d): The following measures are taken to check irregularities and supply good quality foodgrains:

(i) Fair Average Quality (FAQ) foodgrains conforming to Prevention of Food Adulteration Act (PFA) Standards and free from insect infestation are issued for distribution under PDS.

(ii) 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.

(iii) 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.

(iv) To check the swapping of foodgrains, the samples of foodgrains are jointly drawn and sealed by the officers of the State Governments/UT Administrations and the FCI at the time of issue of stocks from FCI godowns for display at the counters of Fair Price

Shops.

(v) The officers of the State Governments/ U.T. Administrations and Department of Food & Public Distribution of the Ministry carry out surprise checks of the FPSs, to oversee the quality of foodgrains being distributed through PDS.