

its purview the disputes arising from health, medical services, share market, etc. It has also made various recommendations to enlarge the scope of the Act: to confer more powers on the consumer courts; to restrict appearance of lawyers in these courts; and to bring the decision of the consumer courts under Article 323 B of the Constitution. The Ministry of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution has circulated the recommendations to various Ministries/Departments for their comments.

(d) Based on the information received from the State Government/UT Administrations, a statement indicating the State-wise position of pending cases in the District Consumer Fora has been prepared and is annexed (*See below*). The Consumer protection Act, 1986 provides for setting up of additional District Fora depending upon the work load. The responsibility for setting up of additional District Fora lies exclusively with the State Governments. The Central Government has recently sanctioned Rs. 5 crores to the States/UTs to strengthen the infrastructure of the Consumer Courts.

Statement

District Forums

States/UTs	Filed since inception	Disposed since inception	Pending cases	Period ending
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	66524	54331	12193	31/3/95
Arunachal Pradesh	60	56	4	31/12/94
Assam	2457	1074	1383	31/3/95
Bihar	18593	10370	8223	30/9/94
Goa	1310	791	519	31/3/95
Gujarat	29896	15751	14145	30/4/94
Haryana	27590	20033	7557	31/3/95
Himachal Pradesh	5495	4237	1248	31/12/94
Jammu & Kashmir	5019	4782	237	31/12/94
Karnataka	10773	6205	4568	30/9/94
Kerala	52812	42808	10004	31/12/94

1	2	3	4	5
Madhya Pradesh	28006	16613	11393	31/12/94
Maharashtra	48174	34663	13511	31/3/95
Manipur	506	505	1	31/12/94
Meghalaya	63	23	40	31/3/95
Mizoram	131	123	8	31/3/95
Nagaland	13	6	7	30/9/94
Orissa	12965	7644	5321	31/3/95
Punjab	10855	6996	3859	30/9/94
Rajasthan	57657	44714	12943	31/3/95
Sikkim	493	15	28	31/12/94
Tamil Nadu	27998	18620	9378	31/12/94
Tripura	595	431	164	31/12/94
Uttar Pradesh	91593	53159	38434	31/12/94
West Bengal	16503	3491	13012	30/9/94
Andaman & Nicobar	90	82	8	31/3/95
Chandigarh	6154	3266	2888	31/9/94
D&N Haveli	19	10	9	31/12/94
Daman & Diu	32	16	16	30/9/94
Delhi	27723	19799	8924	31/3/95
Lakshadweep	18	15	3	31/3/95
Pondicherry	831	656	175	31/12/94
Total	550488	370285	180203	

"Land Bank" concept for afforestation of Coalfields

1895. SHRI V. RAJESHWAR RAO: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) what is the concept of "Land Bank" pursue to simplify the process of compensatory afforestation for lands acquired for coal-fields;

(b) whether this has actually been implemented; and

(c) what has been the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) to (c) The provisions of Forest Conservation Act, 1980 prescribe that for dereservation or diversion of forest land for non-forest uses, compensatory afforestation shall be done over an equivalent area of non forest land. The concept of "land bank" has been adopted to meet this requirement in regard to coal projects. According to available information, some of the coal producing States have

identified land for 'land banks' and the requirement of land for compensatory afforestation is being met from such land banks to the extent feasible.

Shortage of levy sugar in Maharashtra

1896. SHRI V.N. GADGIL: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether Maharashtra Government has stated its inability to distribute 425 gms of levy sugar per head/month as per Central Government policy as only 29938 MTs of sugar is allotted against required allocation of 35987 MTs;

(b) whether Maharashtra Government has represented that some sugar factories refused to release levy sugar on the pretext that they have no stock or are exempted from supply of levy sugar and therefore Central Government should allot sugar from factories which have required stock of levy sugar; and

(c) whether Government will increase the allotment of levy sugar to Maharashtra and also allot sugar from factories which have required stock of levy sugar available with them?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of Maharashtra during June, 1994 had reported that they could not lift levy sugar to the tune of 15,393.9 MT from January upto May, 1994 within the specified validity period. The matter was examined and it was decided to allot a quantity of 3,500 MT to the State Government to meet the requirement. The State Government of Maharashtra was also informed accordingly.

(c) Government has decided to restore 5% adhoc increase in monthly levy sugar allocation of all States/Union Territories including Maharashtra from September, 1995 by making allotments of sugar from factories which have required stocks of levy sugar available with them.

Coal Washeries in CIL

1897. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:
SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the average capacity utilisation by coal washeries during the last three years;

(b) the reasons for under utilisation of capacity;

(c) the total quantity of coal washed during last three years;

(d) the quantity of imports of coking coal during the last three years (year wise) and to what extent this can be saved by optional utilisation of indigenous washing capacity; and

(e) the measures taken/proposed to improve capacity utilisation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) Average capacity utilisation of fifteen coking coal washeries of Coal India Limited (CIL) during the last three years are as under:

Year	Average percentage capacity utilisation of operable capacity
1992-93	67.76
1993-94	68.23
1994-95	68.20

(b) Main reasons for under utilisation of the capacity of existing washeries are as under:

(i) Most of the washeries are old and are designed to process better quality coals. Due to depletion of these reserves over the years, the ash content in the raw coal feed has increased affecting the performance of washeries considerably.

(ii) Inadequate raw coal feed to washeries.

(iii) Frequent power failures.

(c) The total quantity of raw coal washed in coking coal washeries of CIL during the last three years is as under:—

Year	Quantity of raw coal washed (in million tonnes)
1992-93	17.12
1993-94	17.23
1994-95	17.06

(d) and (e) The quantity of coking coal imported by the steel companies during the last three years are given below: