

### People's participation in the Consumer Movement

1706. SHRI BEKAL UTAHI:  
SHRI CHANDRIKA PRASAD  
TRIPATHI:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) what steps Government propose to take to emphasise the need for people's participation in strengthening the consumer movement throughout the country with a view to check leakages in the Public Distribution System; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. J. BAITHA):

(a) and (b) Under the PDS as it exists today, the Central Government is responsible for the procurement and supply of seven essential commodities, namely, wheat; rice sugar; controlled cloth, imported edible oils, soft coke and kerosene to States/UTs. It is the responsibility of the State/UTs to distribute these commodities to the consumers through the network of Fair Price Shops. The States/UTs are thus responsible for the proper functioning of fair price shops in their respective areas.

With a view to encourage people's participation in strengthening the PDS and to check leakages etc. in the System, the Central Govt. has advised States/UTs to constitute Vigilance/Advisory Committees to oversee the functioning of the PDS at State, district, block and fair price shop levels. States/UTs have been requested to give adequate representation on such Committees to women, social workers, elected representatives, prominent citizens, ration card holders, voluntary organisations etc. Such Committees have been constituted by most of the States/UTs.

Further, the Govt. of India accords high priority to the programme of

consumer protection. Rights have been conferred on the consumers and consumer organisations to file complaints in the court under the existing laws, such as Essential Commodities Act, 1955, Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, Standards of Weights and Measures Act etc. The Central Government has also enacted a comprehensive legislation, namely, the Consumer Protection Act, 1986, which applies to all goods and services unless specifically exempted by the Central Government. The Act provides for a three-tier quasi-judicial machinery at the national, State and district level to provide speedy and inexpensive redressal to the consumers' grievances. It covers the private, public, joint and cooperative sectors.

दूरदर्शन धारावाहिक "तमस" से प्राप्त आग्रह

1707. श्री मीर्जा इशदिबेग : क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) दूरदर्शन पर दिखाये गए लोक-प्रिय धारावाहिक "तमस" के विरुद्ध न्यायालयों में हाल ही में किा मुद्दों पर एतराज उठाए गए थे और न्यायालयों द्वारा इस संबंध में किए गए निर्णयों का ब्यौरा क्या है ;

(ख) दूरदर्शन द्वारा इस धारावाहिक से कितना धन कमाया गया ; और

(ग) क्या "तमस" जैसे धारावाहिक के निर्माता और कलाकारों का सम्मान करने का कोई विचार है ?

संसदीय कार्य मंत्री तथा सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री (श्री एच० के० एल० भगत) :

(क) मुख्य आपत्ति यह उठाई गयी थी कि धारावाहिक "तमस" का टेलीकास्ट करना सार्वजनिक हित में नहीं है क्योंकि इससे विभिन्न धार्मिक समुदायों के बीच असमंजस्य और दुर्भावना पैदा होगी। मुकदमा, श्री जावेद ए० सिद्दीक और अन्यो

द्वारा बम्बई उच्च न्यायालय में और श्री रमेश सुपुत्र श्री छटा दलाल द्वारा भारत के उच्चतम न्यायालय, नई दिल्ली में दायर किया गया था। माननीय न्यायालय आपत्तियों से सहमत नहीं हुए और उन्होंने इसका टेलीकास्ट करने की अनुमति दी।

(ख) इस धारावाहिक का टेलीकास्ट करने से दूरदर्शन द्वारा अजित कुल राजस्व लगभग 26 लाख रुपए है।

(ग) फिलहाल दूरदर्शन के पास इस धारावाहिक के निर्माताओं/कलाकारों को सम्मानित करने का कोई प्रस्ताव नहीं है।

#### **Allotment of Essential Commodities to Rajasthan**

1708. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the essential commodities are available in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details of supplies made during the last three years; and

(c) the action Government propose to take to ensure the supply of essential commodities to Rajasthan?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA):

(a) to (c) The allocation of essential commodities, like wheat, rice, kerosene oil, edible oils, levy sugar and controlled cloth etc. is decided from time to time keeping in view the availability of stocks in the Central Pool, relative needs of various States, past offtake etc. The Central allocations of these commodities are supplementary in nature and are not expected to meet the full requirements of the States/UTs.

The primary responsibility for administration and supervision of the

Public Distribution System in States|UTs. lies with the concerned State Governments|U.T. Administrations. Once allocations of essential commodities are received from the Central Government, the State Governments|U.T. Administrations are expected to distribute them properly to the card-holders in their respective States|UTs. The Central Government has, from time to time, advised all the States|UTs to take measures to improve the working of the Public Distribution System by proper control, sustained supervision, efficient management and development of a proper monitoring system at the State, District, Block and Taluka levels to ensure adequate availability of essential commodities through the fair price shops.

The position of allocation of rice, wheat, kerosene oil, imported edible oil and controlled cloth made to Rajasthan during the last three years is given in the attached statement. (See below)

As for levy sugar, the monthly levy quota of sugar to States|UTs is allotted on the basis of uniform norms and not on the basis of demand or request received from them. The monthly levy quota of sugar for Rajasthan since October, 1983 has been as under:—

(Quantity allotted in tonnes) (month-wise)

1. October '83 to January '87	15832
2. February '87 onwards	16914

Besides, the State Government was allotted a festival quota at the rate of 2531 tonnes for the month of June '85, August 85 to November 85 September 86 and October 86 and at the rate of 2546 tonnes for the months of September and October, 1987.