

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) An evaluation study was conducted by "Centre for Consumer Studies, Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA), New Delhi" sponsored by this Ministry in 2012 on "Impact and Effectiveness of Consumer Protection Act, 1986". The study revealed that the awareness level about Consumer Protection Act is broadly around 32.8 percent as per the sample size.

Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission of Assam

1637. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of cases disposed of by Assam State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (CDRC) and Guwahati District forum since their inception;
- (b) the number of cases pending before the CDRC and Guwahati District forum;
- (c) the amount spent by Government on the said CDRC and Guwahati District forum since their inception, year-wise; and
- (d) the number of cases decided by the said CDRC appealed against and disposed/pending before National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission during the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) As per information received from Assam State Commission, 1867 cases (since inception) have been disposed by Assam State Commission upto 31.12.2012. The information with regard to cases disposed of by Guwahati District Forum is not available.

(b) 710 cases are pending in Assam State Commission (since inception) as on 31.12.2012. The information with regard to pending cases in Guwahati District Forum is not available.

(c) Till date under the scheme of 'One Time Grant- 1995' Rs. 50 Lakh and Rs. 10 Lakh have been released to the Government of Assam for strengthening the Infrastructure of Assam State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (CDRC) and Guwahati District forum respectively.

(d) No such information/data are maintained in the National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC)/Government.

Cases before consumer forum of Goa

1638. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of cases pending before State and District Consumer fora in the State of Goa; and

(b) whether there are any vacancies either in the post of Chairman or members in the State and districts Consumer fora, and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K. V. THOMAS): (a) As per information received from Goa State Commission 2371 cases have been filed before Goa State Commission since inception out of which 2321 cases have been disposed of and 50 cases are pending. Further 6452 cases have been filed before District Fora since inception out of which 5947 cases stand disposed. 505 cases are pending in District Consumer Fora.

(b) As per information received from Goa State Commission, there is no vacancy of President or Member at State/District Consumer Forum in Goa.

Restructuring PDS to implement National Food Security Scheme

1639. DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the concrete steps the Ministry proposes to take to restructure the PDS so as to effectively implement the National Food Security Scheme; and