

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1837
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28TH DECEMBER, 2018

**PROCUREMENT OF AGRICULTURAL
COMMODITIES BY PRIVATE PLAYERS**

1837. DR. K.V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to allow private agencies into procurement of agricultural commodities, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the basic features of new procurement policy of Government and how it would protect the interest of farmers; and
- (c) the role of States in the new policy?

A N S W E R
MINISTER OF STATE FOR CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)

(a) to (c): In order to ensure remunerative prices to farmers for their produce, the Government of India has launched an umbrella scheme 'Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay SanraksHan Abhiyan' (PM-AASHA). The umbrella scheme, inter-alia, provides for the Private Procurement & Stockist Scheme (PPSS) for oilseeds to be implemented on pilot basis and States have the option of implementing PPSS in district/selected Agriculture Produce Management Committees (APMCs) of the district with the participation of a private stockist.

Under PPSS, the States are required to send a proposal for procurement of oilseeds to the Government of India. Such procurement will be made from pre-registered farmers on a pilot basis in the district/ selected APMCs of the district. The private stockist shall be empanelled by State/UT government as per extant guidelines. Such a private stockist will not be allowed to sell the procured quantities during the procurement period notified under Price Deficit Payment Scheme (PDPS)/ Price Support Scheme (PSS) for that particular commodity in that State. The private stockist shall be totally responsible for all forms of handling including storage and transportation, as well as disposal. The maximum eligible service charge shall be 15% of the MSP notified for the year and crop commodity under consideration. The private stockist shall procure the selected oilseeds maximum of 25% of production in the District /Agriculture Produce Management Committees (APMCs) at MSP conforming to the prescribed Fair Average Quality (FAQ) norms.
