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

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.866 TO BE ANSWERED ON 9TH FEBRUARY, 2024

NON-EVACUATION OF SURPLUS PAR-BOILED RICE

866 SHRI MANAS RANJAN MANGARAJ:

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

(a) whether Government is aware of the issue of non-evacuation of surplus parboiled rice by the Food Corporation of India (FCI) from the State of Odisha;

(b) if so, the reasons for this inaction;

(c) whether Government is considering the introduction of an alternative scheme to address the issue, given that the non-evacuation is causing the deterioration and loss of par-boiled rice quality; and

(d) if so, the details of the scheme, if not, the reasons therefor?

A N S W E R MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI)

(a) & (b): In the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between Government of India and State Governments, a clause stipulates that –

"if the stocks of the rice procured by the State Government exceeds its allocation under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and Other Welfare Scheme (OWS), such excess stocks shall be handed over to FCI by the State Government. However, FCI shall have the option to specify whether such excess rice that would be handed over to FCI for central pool by the State Government shall be in the form of raw rice or Parboiled rice to meet overall consumption requirement of the country".

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During KMS 2022-23, a total quantity of 53.85 LMT Custom Milled Rice (CMR) has been delivered by State Government of Odisha in the Central Pool up to 31.01.2024, out of which 44.18 LMT was in the form of parboiled rice. Being a Decentralised Procurement (DCP) state, out of the total quantity delivered in Central Pool, a quantity of 31.37 LMT (7.51 LMT raw rice and 23.86 LMT parboiled rice) was retained by State Govt. of Odisha for its own requirements and remaining 22.48 LMT was delivered to FCI (2.16 LMT raw rice and 20.32 LMT parboiled rice) up to 31.01.2024.

FCI has been prompt in evacuation of rice from the State. However, from December 2022 to January 2024, only 22.48 LMT rice was delivered by the Government of Odisha against the 36.36 LMT rice delivery target for KMS 2022-23. Similarly, for KMS 2023-24, from December 2023 to January 2024, only 1.06 LMT rice was delivered against the 3.25 LMT rice delivery target given to the State Government.

Further, for KMS 2023-24, Government of India has allowed State Government of Odisha to deliver surplus fortified parboiled rice to the tune of 10.00 LMT.

(c) & (d): FCI has sufficient storage space to accommodate surplus CMR offered by the State Government of Odisha.

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