

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 515
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 29/11/2024

ACCEPTANCE OF WAREHOUSE RECEIPTS

515. Shri Chunnilal Garasiya :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether Government proposes to accept warehouse receipts submitted as per Clause 39 of the Agreement signed between National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation (NAFED) and Rajasthan State Cooperative Marketing Federation (RAJFED);
- (b) if so, the timeline for acceptance of such receipts; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE, AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

(SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

(a) to (c): Under the present procurement mechanism under Price Support Scheme (PSS), a component of Pradhan Mantri - Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA), National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED), as a Central Nodal Agency procures notified oilseeds, pulses and copra of Fair Average Quality (FAQ) at Minimum Support Price (MSP) through the State level agencies, directly from the pre-registered farmers within the stipulated period as and when the market prices of these commodities fall below the notified MSP during peak harvesting period to provide remunerative price to the farmers, as per prescribed guidelines.

As per the PSS Guidelines-2024, Central Nodal Agency will make payment to State agencies only for Warehouse Receipts (WHRs) received within 30 days from the end of procurement period. In exceptional situations, the Committee chaired by the concerned states' Principal Secretary / Additional Chief Secretary Agriculture may examine the reasons for delay, if any, on a case to case basis and extend such period for a maximum period of 30 days over and above the allowed period.

NAFED, as a Central Nodal Agency executed the Agreement with State Level Agency (SLA) i.e. Rajasthan State Cooperative Marketing Federation (RAJFED) for procurement under Price Support Scheme (PSS) for each season for various commodities. The clause 39 of the Agreement signed between National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED) and Rajasthan State Cooperative Marketing Federation (RAJFED) for procurement under PSS describes the Force Majeure clause. The implementation of the clause requires fulfillment of certain conditions. As per the information received from NAFED, none of the parties to agreement has claimed invoking of force majeure conditions.

The clause 24 (xviii) and (xix) of the agreement pertaining to the acceptance of warehouse receipts are mentioned below for information.

Clause (xviii)

The SLS shall submit the complete clean WHRs as per FAQ norms for the procured quantity within 30 days from closure of the procurement.

Clause (xix)

NAFED will make payment to State Government/agencies only for WHRs received within 30 days from the end of procurement period. In exceptional situations, the Committee chaired by the concerned states' Principal Secretary / Additional Chief Secretary Agriculture may examine the reasons for delay, if any, on a case to case basis and extend such period for a maximum period of 30 days over and above the allowed period.
