

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COOPERATION

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1124
TO BE ANSWERED ON 30th JULY, 2025

Procurement of Canadian lintel and peas through cooperative society

1124 # Shri R. Girirajan:

Will the Minister of **Cooperation** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is procuring fortified rice and Canadian lintel and peas through Cooperative societies/Federations for public distribution to different types of ration card holders in the country, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the quantity and rate in INR per kg of fortified rice purchased through National level Cooperative societies/Federations during the last five years, State-wise/UT-wise; and
- (c) the total funds allocated disbursed and spent for the same during the last five years by National Cooperative societies/Federations?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF COOPERATION
(SHRI AMIT SHAH)

(a): As per information provided by Department of Consumer Affairs, the Government has no proposal to procure Canadian lentil and peas through Cooperative societies/Federations for public distribution to different types of ration card holders. As per information provided by Department of Food & Public distribution, the procurement of paddy for Central Pool is primarily and mostly carried out by the State Govt's procuring agencies which engage arhatiya (wherever in practice), cooperative societies, self-help groups, PACS, Large Area Multi-Purpose Societies etc. for procurement of paddy from farmers and delivery of procured paddy to rice millers for milling of the same. Govt. of India launched a centrally sponsored scheme for fortification of rice with Iron, Folic acid and Vitamin B12 and its distribution under Public Distribution System. The objective of this scheme is to address the prevalence of micronutrient deficiency in vulnerable section of society by distributing fortified rice under various welfare schemes i.e. ICDS, PM-POSHAN, PMGKAY etc. Paddy is procured through Food Corporation of India (FCI) and State Government Agencies and distributed in the form of custom milled fortified rice.

(b): Government procures paddy through NAFED & NCCF and as such does not procure 'fortified rice' through them for public distribution to different types of ration card holders in the country.

(c): In terms of answer at part (b), question does not arise.
