

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2155
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 31ST JULY, 2018

PROCUREMENT OF FOODGRAINS

2155. SHRI KONAKALLA NARAYANA RAO:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Government is not procuring the foodgrains from the farmers which is posing a serious problem to the farmers in selling their output and if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) whether the Government has any proposal to implement the recommendations of the Swaminathan Commission in the agriculture sector and if so, the details thereof along with the stand of the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a): The Government extends price support to paddy and wheat through the FCI and State Agencies across the country. The procurement policy is open ended. Under this policy, whatever food grains are offered by farmers, within the stipulated period & conforming to the specifications prescribed by Government are purchased at Minimum Support Price (MSP) by the State Government agencies including Food Corporation of India (FCI) for Central Pool. Further, pulses of Fair Average Quality (FAQ) are also procured from farmers under Price Support System (PSS), as per its prescribed guidelines at Minimum Support Price (MSP) in consultation with the concerned State Government as and when market price of these produce fall below the MSP. However, if producer/farmer gets better price in comparison to MSP, they are free to sell their produce in open market.

(b): Based on the 'Draft National Policy for Farmers', submitted by the Swaminathan Commission, which contained major recommendations of the Commission, the Government approved the National Policy for Farmers (NPF), 2007, which aims to improve economic viability of farming and increase net income of farmers. An Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC), which was constituted for preparation of Plan of Action, identified 201 Action Points for NPF, 2007, where necessary action had to be taken. Of the 201 number of action points identified, 192 numbers have already been implemented.
