

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2357
TO BE ANSWERED ON 15TH MARCH, 2023**

**RELAXING NORMS OF MOISTURE CONTENT FOR PADDY
PROCUREMENT**

2357. SHRI RAMALINGAM S.:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government had planned to accord permission for relaxing norms on moisture content for paddy procurement based on the request of Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation (TNCSC) under the decentralised procurement scheme, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the steps taken by the Government for procurement of paddy directly from the farmers of the State of Tamil Nadu including Thanjavur and Mayiladuthurai and Nagapattinam districts this year;
- (c) the quantum of paddy and other crops procured by the various procurement agencies in the State of Tamil Nadu during the last five years; and
- (d) the number of procurement centres set up by these agencies in the country during the last two years?

A N S W E R

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI)**

(a): Based on the request received from the State Government of Tamil Nadu and analysis results of Paddy samples collected & analyzed by the joint team, the Government of India has allowed to procure Paddy of Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2022-23 (for Kharif crop only) by allowing relaxation in the refractions of Moisture Content upto 19% against the existing limit *i.e.* 17% for the districts of Thanjavur, Tiruvarur, Nagapattinam, Mayiladuthurai, and Trichy on 28.10.2022 and upto 20 % for 08 districts *i.e.* Thanjavur, Tiruvarur, Nagapattinam, Mayiladuthurai, Pudukkottai, Cuddalore, Ariyalur and Tiruchirappali, Tamil Nadu on 23.02.2023.

(b): In total 2,856 Direct Purchase Centres (DPCs) have been set up this year including Thanjavur and Mayiladuthurai and Nagapattinam districts of Tamil Nadu to procure paddy directly from farmers.

(c): The details on the quantum of paddy procured by the various procurement agencies in the State of Tamil Nadu during last five years are as under:

Year	Procured quantity of Paddy under Central Pool (in LMT)
2017-2018	14.61
2018-2019	19.03
2019-2020	32.41
2020-2021	44.90
2021-2022	27.58

(d): A total of 2,731 and 3,182 DPCs were set up by various agencies in the state of Tamil Nadu during the year 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 respectively.
