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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3483 TO BE ANSWERED ON 22ND MARCH, 2023

RELEASE OF SHARE IN PROCUREMENT FUNDS

3483. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH:

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 is aware of reports that the paddy farmers of Kuttanad and Kerala State are yet to be disbursed their due share of paddy procurement leading them to a financial crisis;
- (b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to address the same;
- (c) whether the Government is yet to release the share in the procurement funds; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the total amount of funds disbursed to Kerala for the same in the last three years and the current year?

ANSWER

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

(a) and (b): Kerala is a Decentralized Procurement (DCP) state wherein procurement operations are carried out by the State Government and its agencies.

State Government of Kerala has informed that 43811.809 Metric Tonnes of paddy has been procured in Kuttanad during Crop-1 season and the payment for which distributed completely. Also, 17203.895 Metric Tonns has been procured in Crop-2 season. During the year 2022-23, a total amount of Rs.569.00 crore has been distributed to the farmers in Kerala for paddy procurement.

(c) and (d): The provisional food subsidy is released to DCP States including Kerala on the basis of quarterly claims made by State Governments.

The claims of State Governments are processed keeping in view the opening and closing balance of stocks, procurement, allocation and distribution of food grains, Food Corporation of India's reconciliation, Utilization Certificates received, Economic Cost of food grains, prevalent guidelines etc., among others, which is a continuous process. Department of Food & Public Distribution, Government of India continuously releases quarterly admissible amount of food subsidy to the all DCP States including Government of Kerala.

The details of admissible amount of provisional food subsidy released by Government of India to Kerala State for last three years is as under:-

(Rs. in crore)

		(KS. III Clore)		
State	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23 (As on 16.03.2023
Kerala	469.30	1214.98	1777.86	808.01
