

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.4602
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29TH MARCH, 2023**

EFFECTIVE PROCUREMENT OF FOODGRAINS

4602. SHRI VINCENT H. PALA:

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

be pleased to state the details of steps taken by the Government for the effective procurement of foodgrains during natural calamities such as floods and frost?

A N S W E R

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

There exists a transparent and uniform policy for procurement of wheat and paddy by Government Agencies across the country. State Government agencies and Food Corporation of India (FCI) purchase wheat & paddy within the stipulated period with prescribed Fair Average Quality (FAQ) specification at Minimum Support Price (MSP) for Central Pool.

The following steps are taken for the effective procurement of foodgrains:

- (i) Farmers are made aware of the quality specifications and purchase system etc. to facilitate the farmers to bring their produce conforming to the specifications.**
- (ii) On the request of State Government relaxation in Uniform Specification is granted by government of India for procurement of foodgrains affected due to natural calamities i.e flood, drought, rainfall & Hailstorm, heat-wave etc.**

....2/-

- (iii) Government agencies undertake MSP operation at mandis/ temporary purchase centres/aggregation points. Sufficient numbers of procurement centres are opened by procuring agencies including FCI, keeping in view the procurement potential and geographical spread of the State concerned. Large number of temporary purchase centres in addition to the existing Mandis and depots/godowns are also established at key points for the convenience of the farmers in that situation.**
- (iv) Through e-procurement module deployed by procuring Agencies, farmers get latest/updated information regarding MSP declared, nearest purchase center, date of procurement etc. This not only has reduced the waiting period for delivery of stock by the farmers but also enables the farmer to deliver stock as per his convenience in the nearest mandi.**
- (v) Extension in period of procurement of wheat and paddy is granted by Government of India on the request of concerned State Government in the event of delay/disruption in procurement due to natural calamities.**
- (vi) Extension in period of milling/delivery of Custom Milled Rice (CMR) is granted by Government of India on the request of concerned State Govt. in the event of delay/disruption in procurement due to natural calamities.**
