

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

**LOK SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO.193  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 2<sup>ND</sup> AUGUST, 2023**

**SALE OF RICE UNDER OMSS**

**\*193. DR. PRITAM GOPINATHRAO MUNDE:  
SHRI RAHUL RAMESH SHEWALE:**

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

- (a) whether there is a shortage of rice in the open market and if so, the facts thereof;**
- (b) whether the Union Government has decided to sell rice through e-auction under the Open Market Sale Scheme (OMSS) from the buffer stock to bulk consumers in the public interest, if so, the facts thereof;**
- (c) whether the Union Government has fixed margin of profit of bulk consumers in this regard, if so, the details thereof; and**
- (d) if not, the steps proposed to be taken by the Union Government to ensure that bulk consumers do not gain the high profit from the end users of the rice?**

**A N S W E R  
MINISTER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY, CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD  
& PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND TEXTILES  
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)**

---

**(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.**

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF THE STARRED QUESTION NO. 193 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 02.08.2023 IN THE LOK SABHA.**

**(a): The total stock of rice available in central pool as on 01.07.2023 is 253.49 Lakh MT against stocking norms of 135.40 Lakh MT which is adequate to meet our domestic requirement under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and Other Welfare Schemes (OWS).**

**As per third advance estimates of Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, in 2022-23 the production of rice in the country is 1355.42 Lakh MT which is 4.69% higher than the production of rice in previous year 2021-22.**

**(b): In addition to maintaining buffer stocks and for making a provision for meeting the requirement of the National Food Security Act (NFSA) and Other Welfare Schemes (OWS), the Food Corporation of India (FCI) on the instructions from the Government sells excess stocks out of Central Pool through Open Market Sale Scheme (Domestic) [OMSS (D)] in the open market, to enhance the supply of food grains during the lean season and deficit regions, from time to time at predetermined prices to reduce the carrying cost of food grains and moderate the open market prices. The Government of India has decided to offload 10 LMT of rice from central pool stock under OMSS (D) 2023 to private parties in order to moderate the market prices.**

**(c) to (d): Margin of profit is governed by market prices. The Government of India is closely monitoring the domestic retail price of rice and has taken various steps from time to time to augment domestic availability and stabilize the prices of essential food commodities. These steps, inter-alia, include releases of rice under OMSS(D) from the buffer to cool down price and restrictions on exports of the commodity.**

**\*\*\*\*\***