Government of India
Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
Department of Consumer Affairs

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 803
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.02.2024

PRICE STABILIZATION FUND

803. DR. PRITAM GOPINATHRAO MUNDE: SHRI RAHUL RAMESH SHEWALE: SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (a) & (b) : Price Stabilization Fund (PSF) has been set up in 2014-15 to mitigate the hardship faced by consumers due to price volatility in agri-horticultural commodities. Till date total budgetary support Rs. 27,489.14 crore has been provided for price stabilization operations. The objectives of PSF are (i) to promote direct purchase from farmers/farmers’ associations at farm gate/ mandi; (ii) to maintain a strategic buffer stock that would discourage hoarding and unscrupulous speculation; and (iii) to protect consumers by supplying such commodities at reasonable prices through calibrated release of stock. Under this scheme, dynamic buffer stock of pulses (Tur, Urad, Moong, Masur and Gram) and Onions have been created over the years. The maintenance of buffer stock and calibrated releases from buffer helped in checking price volatility and ensuring availability of these food commodities at affordable prices to the consumers. Market interventions have also been carried out for Tomato and Potato under PSF to stabilise price volatility and make them available at affordable prices.

(c) & (d) : Under this scheme, dynamic buffer stock of pulses has been created through procurement of domestic and imported stocks and acquisition of stocks procured under the Price Support Scheme (PSS). Since its inception a total of 91.62 lakh tons of pulses has been acquired under PSF buffer and 86.45 lakh tons has been disposed. During 2022-23 and 2023-24 (till 31.01.2024) a total of 24.19 lakh tons of pulses was released from the buffer.

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

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