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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1276 TO BE ANSWERED ON 27TH JULY, 2021

FOOD STOCKS STORED BY FCI

1276. SHRI SHANMUGA SUNDARAM K.:

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

(a) the total quantity of food stocks stored by Food Corporation of India (FCI) as on date in metric tons;

(b) whether these food procurements were acquired as per the Minimum Support Price (MSP), if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total quantity of food grains released under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana (PMGKAY); and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to prevent illegal sale of food grains released under PD\$ scheme?

ANSWER

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

(a): The total stock of foodgrains in the Central Pool as on 01.07.2021 was 900.45 lakh tons consisting of 603.56 lakh of wheat and 296.89 lakh tons of rice.

(b): Yes Sir, The procurement policy of Government of India is open ended, under which paddy and wheat offered by farmers within the stipulated period (confirming to specifications prescribed in advance by GOI) are purchased for Central Pool at Minimum Support Price (MSP) by Food Corporation of India(FCI)/State Governments /State Government Agencies to help farmers get remunerative price and prevent distress sale.

(c): During the COVID-19 pandemic year 2020-21 and 2021-22 under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) a total of nearly 600.814 lakh tons of foodgrains was allocated. Out of this allocation nearly 400.703 lakh tons has been lifted (released) as on 14th july, 2021.

(d): For transparent distribution of foodgrains and rightful targeting under NFSA, nearly 4.96 lakh e-PoS devices have been installed, out of a total of nearly 5.38 lakh FPS, all over the country, through Aadhar authentication. In this regard, transaction details are available in the public domain. Further, whenever e-PoS device is not available or not working at FPS, this Department has advised all States/UTs to distribute the subsidized/free foodgrains in the presence of Government official/Staff.

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