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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2941 TO BE ANSWERED ON 15TH DECEMBER, 2021

RICE PROCUREMENT

2941. SHRI NAMA NAGESWARA RAO:

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

- (a) whether the Union Government has recently received a proposal from the State Government of Telangana to procure parboiled rice in the present kharif season through Food Corporation of India (FCI) and if so, the details thereof and reaction of the Government thereto;
- (b) whether the Government has received a proposal from the State Government of Telangana to enhance the Centre's procurement target from the existing 40 lakh metric tonnes to 90% of the total production in the present kharif season;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (d) the details of measures taken to alleviate the financial distress of Telangana farmers on account of faulty paddy procurement policies of the Union Government?

ANSWER

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

(a): During last KMS, Telangana State was requested for delivery of 24.75 LMT of the surplus CMR in the form of parboiled rice to Food Corporation of India against Rabi crop of KMS 2020-21 and remaining surplus CMR in the form of raw rice.

On the request of Govt. of Telangana, Government of India approved for delivery of another 20 LMT par boiled rice to FCI in addition to already approved 24.75 LMT thereby increasing the delivery of parboiled rice to 44.75 LMT for KMS 2020-21 (Rabi crop) and balance in the form of raw rice.

State Govt. of Telangana gave commitment vide letter dated 04.10.2021 that no parboiled rice would be delivered by the State Govt. of Telangana to FCI in future.

- (b) and (c): Yes, Sir. In the States/UTs Food Secretaries meeting held on 17.08.2021, procurement estimate of 40 LMT of rice for the State was fixed by Government of India in consultation with the State Government and Food Corporation of India (FCI) considering estimated production, marketable surplus and agricultural crop pattern. Increase or decrease of procurement estimate is decided on the basis of estimated production, marketable surplus, agricultural crop pattern and PDS requirement.
- (d): State Government agencies and Food Corporation of India (FCI) purchase wheat & paddy with prescribed FAQ specifications at MSP for Central Pool to ensure that farmers get remunerative prices for their produce and do not have to resort to distress sale. However, if producer/farmer gets better price in comparison to MSP, they are free to sell their produce in open market.

Paddy procurement and number of farmers benefitted from MSP operations in the state of Telangana are increasing year on year which indicates increased outreach of MSP operations and farmers getting remunerative price of their produce.