

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1373
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 3RD DECEMBER, 2024

ONGOING PADDY PROCUREMENT

1373. SHRI SHER SINGH GHUBAYA :

SHRI SUKHJINDER SINGH RANDHAWA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the ongoing paddy procurement crisis in Punjab;
- (b) if so, the steps taken to ensure the welfare of farmers;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the rice millers in Punjab have refused to mill paddy due to issues related to rice yield and space shortages; and
- (d) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to resolve these issues?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण राज्य मंत्री (SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

(a) & (b) : The period of paddy procurement for Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2024-25 in Punjab commenced from 01.10.2024 and continued till 30.11.2024. A quantity of 169 LMT paddy has already been procured at Minimum Support Price (MSP) by the State Govt. procuring agencies and Food Corporation of India (FCI), through Arhatiyas against the reported arrival of 171 LMT in the mandis till 27.11.2024. In addition to 1823 regular notified mandis, 951 Public places cum temporary yards and 475 rice mills cum temporary yards have been made operational by the State Govt. for paddy procurement at MSP.

(c) & (d) : Approximately, 4800 millers have already been reported registered and have been allocated paddy by the State Govt. Agencies for its storage under joint custody and milling.

Creation / vacation of godown for receipt /storing incoming stocks is a continuous process by moving out the already stored foodgrains stocks there. In order to make additional storage capacity available for receipt/storage of rice after milling of current crop of paddy, measures like prioritising movement/evacuation of wheat stocks kept in covered godowns in the State, hiring of additional storage capacity, additional outward movement of rice from Punjab, are being resorted to.

With respect to claim regarding lesser out-turn ratio of rice from certain new hybrid varieties of paddy grown in Punjab, a study has been entrusted to IIT Kharagpur on yield related issue.
