

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1454
TO BE ANSWERED ON 4TH DECEMBER, 2024

BUYING OF RICE BY STATES DIRECTLY FROM FCI

1454. SHRI V K SREEKANDAN:

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

- (a) whether the Government has allowed the State Governments to buy rice directly from the Food Corporation of India (FCI) under the Open Market Sale Scheme (Domestic) without participating in e-auction;
- (b) if so, whether this decision was taken to reduce the huge surplus stocks ahead of the procurement after kharif season and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether State can buy more rice over the stipulated 5 kg of free grain per individual under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana at Rs. 2,800 per quintal instead of the earlier price and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether it is also true that when the State Governments demanded more rice in the same fashion earlier, the same was not allowed; and
- (e) if so, the reasons therefor?

A N S W E R
MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS,
FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRIMATI NIMUBEN JAYANTIBHAI BAMBHANIYA)

(a) to (c): Yes, Sir. As per the extant Open Market Sale Scheme (Domestic) [OMSS(D)] for year 2024-25, sale of rice to Governments of non-surplus States which require additional rice to meet their requirement, is allowed without participating in e-auction.

The objective of OMSS (D) is to increase the availability of foodgrains in the market and to control the inflationary trend through sale of foodgrains in excess of requirements of Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), Other Welfare Schemes (OWS) and buffer stocks.

(d) to (e): Keeping in view the need to maintain sufficient stocks for necessary market intervention to control prices of rice, sale of rice to State Governments under OMSS(D) 2023-24 was discontinued with effect from 13.06.2023. However, sale of rice continued to North-eastern states, hill states, states facing law & order situations and natural calamities.
