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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1508 TO BE ANSWERED ON 03rd MAY, 2016

QUALITY CHECKS OF FOODGRAINS

1508. SHRI PONGULETI SRINIVASA REDDY:

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

(a) whether it is true that quality checks presently undertaken in procurement of foodgrains for central pool are below the specified standards;

(b) if so, whether the Government/FCI proposes to contact premier institutions of the country for mechanized quality checking of foodgrains; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

A N S W E R MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN)

(a), (b) & (c) No Madam. Foodgrains under Central Pool are procured strictly conforming to quality specifications formulated by the Department.

However, Government has proposed to contact premier institutions of the country for mechanized quality checking on the basis of recommendations of High Level Committee (HLC). Accordingly FCI has taken up the matter with premier institutions of the country viz Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur, Delhi, Kharagpur, Mumbai, Chennai, Roorkee, Guwahati, Indian Institute of science Bangalore, Central Rice Research Institute Cuttack, Central Electronic Engineering Research Institute Pilani, Central Food Technological Research Institute Mysore, Secretary (DARE) & Director General (ICAR) to use their expertise in developing technical solutions/instruments for mechanized quality checks of rice.