

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1703
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29TH JULY, 2026

RICE DIVERTED FOR ETHANOL PRODUCTION

1703 SHRI ANTO ANTONY:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of reports of Government-procured rice being diverted for ethanol production and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has identified any instances of diversion or misuse of rice procured under the Public Distribution System (PDS) or from Food Corporation of India (FCI) for ethanol production and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has ordered or completed any inquiry into the alleged diversion of Government rice for ethanol production and if so, the findings thereof;
- (d) the details of the quantity of Government rice seized in cases related to illegal diversion for ethanol production during the last three years, State-wise;
- (e) the details of rice procured by the Government agencies and the quantity subsequently allocated or diverted for ethanol production during the last three years, State-wise; and
- (f) the Government has received any representations, objections or memoranda from any stakeholders opposing the use of Government rice for ethanol production and if so, the details thereof?

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

(a): Government of India, after maintaining buffer stocks and making provision for meeting the requirements under National Food Security Act (NFSA) and Other Welfare Schemes (OWS), allows sale of excess stock of rice under Open Market Sale Scheme (Domestic) (OMSS (D)) through Food Corporation of India (FCI) for ethanol production under Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) Programme.

(b) & (c): No instance of diversion of rice allocated under Targeted Public Distribution System for ethanol production has come to notice of the Government. However, two cases of diversion of FCI rice meant for ethanol production were detected by the Government agencies and prompt action has been initiated. Following detection of irregularities in the movement of rice consignments by the two distilleries, State Food Departments have taken necessary action. FCI has also discontinued further allocation of rice to these distilleries.

(d): State Government of Madhya Pradesh has seized 242.50 quintals of FCI Rice issued for ethanol production which has been allegedly diverted by a distillery in the State. Similarly, State Government of Uttar Pradesh has seized about 540 quintals of FCI Rice allegedly diverted by a distillery in the State.

(e): State-wise procurement of rice since Kharif Marketing Season 2023-24 is given at **Annexure-I**.

The allocation and lifting of FCI rice for production of ethanol under EBP Programme during the last three Ethanol Supply Years (ESYs) is given as below:

Ethanol Year(ESY)	Supply Allocated Quantity of FCI rice (in LMT)	Quantity of FCI rice lifted by distilleries (in LMT)
2023-24	23	NIL
2024-25	52	31.83
2025-26(upto 30.06.2026)	72	44.21

(f): No, Government has not received any representations, objections or memoranda from any stakeholders opposing the use of Government rice for ethanol production.

Annexure-I

Annexure referred to in reply to part (e) of the LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1703 due for answer on 29.07.2026

State-wise details of quantity of rice procured from Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2023-24 to KMS 2025-26:

STATE/UT	KMS 2023-24	KMS 2024-25	KMS 2025-26 (Upto 21.07.2026)
A&N ISLANDS	0.00	0.00	0.00
ANDHRA PRADESH	20.38	25.60	39.59
TELANGANA	63.86	65.09	74.49
ASSAM	2.64	5.70	4.61
BIHAR	20.63	26.28	25.02
CHANDIGARH	0.17	0.18	0.13
CHHATISGARH	83.00	78.00	73.00
DELHI	0.00	0.00	0.00
GUJARAT	0.57	0.24	0.46
HARYANA	39.49	36.17	41.58
HIMACHAL PRADESH	0.15	0.25	0.14
JHARKHAND	0.50	1.40	1.06
JAMMU & KASHMIR	0.16	0.22	0.33
KARNATAKA	0.00	0.00	0.04
KERALA	3.80	3.83	3.76
MADHYA PRADESH	28.25	29.09	34.67
MAHARASHTRA	7.80	10.67	12.50
ODISHA	48.20	58.17	54.20
PUDUCHERRY	0.00	0.00	0.00
PUNJAB	124.14	116.13	104.86
NEF(TRIPURA)	0.21	0.24	0.15
TAMIL NADU	23.77	32.63	28.16
UTTAR PRADESH	36.05	38.66	41.75
UTTRAKHAND	4.89	4.51	5.02
WEST BENGAL	16.79	19.91	16.71
RAJASTHAN	0.00	0.00	0.00
OTHERS	0.00	0.00	0.00
ALL INDIA TOTAL :	525.48	552.98	562.21
