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Title: Regarding the issue of siphoning off from the Public Distribution System of the consuming states and then sold back to FCI as Custom Milled Rice.

SHRI BRIJENDRA SINGH (HISAR): Sir, it has come to light recently that a large quantity of paddy is being procured fictitiously by the rice millers in Haryana. The total estimated production of paddy in Haryana is 58 Lakh Metric Tonnes. Out of this, more than 50 per cent is Basmati, and Basmati is not procured by the Government. Against this procurable 25 LMT to 30 LMT of estimated paddy production, more than 63.8 LMT has already been procured. Quite a lot of paddy from neighbouring States finds its way to Haryana mandis. But what is really disturbing is that a large quantity of this paddy is actually rice siphoned off from the Public Distribution System of the consuming States and is then ploughed back to the FCI as Custom Milled Rice (CMR).

The State Government of Haryana has already ordered a comprehensive investigation into the matter. However, I would urge the Minister of Food and Public Distribution to act on this issue in a decisive manner, maybe, by having its own independent investigation preferably by a third party, as it is ultimately the FCI which is paying for all these procurements. The FCI should also device a sound mechanism to ensure that there is no recurrence of such organised graft in the name of farmers.

Also, the Ministry of Food and Public Distribution needs to take up the matter with the consuming States wherefrom the PDS rice, meant for

the poor, is being siphoned off in bulk quantities and being sold back again to FCI as CMR.

I thank you once again, Sir.

माननीयअध्यक्ष:डॉबी.वी. सत्यावती, उपस्थितनहीं ।

श्रीमतीरंजीताकोली, उपस्थितनहीं ।

श्रीतापिरगाव ।