

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3412
ANSWERED ON:16.03.2000
PROCUREMENT OF PADDY
AKHILESH SINGH

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

- (a) the quantum of paddy procured and sold in the open market during the year 1994-95;
- (b) whether the Food Corporation of India and the senior officers of the Department of Food, Government of India gave away 2% of the total paddy to the traders free of cost in this deal;
- (c) if so, the total losses suffered by the Food Corporation of India in this process; and
- (d) the punitive action taken by the Government against the guilty persons?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

(SHRI SRIRAM CHAUHAN)

- (a) In 1994-95, a total quantity of 81.74 lakh MTs of paddy was procured and out of this, a quantity of 22.63 lakh MTs was sold in the open market.
- (b) & (c) : No, Sir. The paddy stocks sold in the open market were issued to the private traders on actual weight basis. These paddy stocks were stored in the rice mills premises in joint custody. FCI has filed arbitration cases against 431 millers for a claim of Rs. 242.98 crores for loss of paddy on account of misappropriation.
- (d) 1 Category I officer of FCI has been dismissed from service and 13 Category II and III officers/officials have been awarded major/minor penalties on their involvement having been established. More cases are under various stages of enquiry/action. Also, CBI has initiated a preliminary enquiry into the alleged misconduct on the sale of paddy in 1994-95.