GOVERNMENT OF INDIA CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2856 ANSWERED ON:27.08.2013 PROCUREMENT SYSTEM Singh Shri Pradeep Kumar

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

(a) whether the Government has prepared any action plan for removing lapses from the system relating to procurement and storage of foodgrains for implementing the food security scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures proposed by the Government for checking revenue loss caused to the Government because of delay in supply of rice by the rice mills processed out of the paddy procured by the Government?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a) & (b): Before the start of every marketing season, Government convenes a meeting of State Food Secretaries, Food Corporation of India and other stake holders to prepare a detailed action plan for making the arrangements of procurement in the ensuing marketing season. Details of number of procurement centres to be opened and arrangements like purchase of packaging material and storage space etc. are discussed in the meeting. Review is made from time to time on the need of additional procurement centres if any. During the procurement season, the required additional procurement centres are also opened. Lifting of foodgrains by States and Union Territories is also reviewed from time to time.

(c): From Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2012-13 onwards Government has laid down clear-cut guidelines indicating the timelines for delivery of rice in Central Pool and for giving extensions for completing the deliveries by the State Governments. In case, any State government fails to deliver the Custom-milled Rice (CMR) / levy rice by the cut-off date finally set for that State, it will have to recover the losses incurred due to non-delivery of CMR from the concerned millers and will have to dispose off the CMR delivered late by the millers on its own and bear the consequential losses, if any.