

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3613
ANSWERED ON:11.08.2015
Procurement of Agricultural Commodities
Rao Shri Rayapati Sambasiva

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is considering to improve the procurement mechanism in the country to rescue the farmers of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is considering to streamline or bringing an innovative state of the art procurement system in the agricultural sector; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

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(a) to (d): Recently, to maintain uniformity & transparency in procurement operations, the Government has formulated Price Support Scheme (PSS) guidelines in consultation with all stakeholders. Procurement under the PSS is undertaken on the request of State / UT Governments, who agree to exempt the procured commodities from levy of mandi tax and assist central agencies in logistic arrangements on reimbursement basis. Further, the stocks are purchased by Cooperative Societies, Farmers' Producer's Organisations (FPO), Farmers' Producer's companies, Panchayati Raj Institutions directly from genuine farmers having legitimate land record to eliminate possibility of middlemen taking advantage of the scheme. Further, the purchase centres are established close to the CWC / SWC godown, processing mill to reduce the transportation cost. The reporting of purchase is made through online mechanism and the central / state procuring agencies are required to display the details of purchases on a daily basis on their website.
