

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:489

ANSWERED ON:28.04.2015

RELAXATION IN PROCUREMENT NORMS

Mahadik Shri Dhananjay Bhimrao; Satav Shri Rajeev Shankarrao

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

- (a) the qualify norms and other parameters fixed for procurement of wheat and other foodcrops;
- (b) whether the States have requested the Government to relax quality standards for wheat procurement to compensate the farmers for the damage caused by the untimely rains and other natural calamities, if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereto indicating the names of the States where it has been allowed;
- (c) whether targets have been fixed by the Food Corporation of India (FCI) and other Government agencies to procure wheat for various Government schemes and if so, the details thereof along with the prospects of meeting such targets; and
- (d) the other steps taken/being taken by the Government to ensure procurement of entire wheat produce of farmers through FCI and other Government agencies?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF THE STARRED QUESTION NO 489 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 28.4.2015 IN THE LOK SABHA

(a) The uniform specifications for procurement under Central Pool of Rabi Food grains including wheat for Rabi Marketing Season (RMS) 2015-16 and Kharif foodgrains for Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2014-15 are at Annex I & II respectively.

(b): Government of Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh & Punjab have requested for relaxation in uniform specifications of wheat for procurement during RMS 2015-16 due to unseasonal rains and adverse climatic conditions. Relaxations have been allowed based on the assessment of quality of wheat samples jointly collected by concerned State Government and Food Corporation of India (FCI) as under:

State Refractions

Shrivelled and Broken grains Luster Lost grains  
Gujarat (i) upto 10% without value cut.  
(ii) Above 10 upto 25% with 1/4 th of one value cut on flat basis or say Rs. 3.63 per quintal.

Madhya Upto 10% with value cut @ 1/4 th of one value Upto 10% without value cut Above 10 upto Pradesh cut for every additional relaxation of 2% 40% with % th of one value cut on flat basis or part thereof, i.e. for above 6 upto 8% or say Rs. 3.63 per quintal. @ Rs.3.63 per quintal and for above 8 upto 10% @Rs 7.25 per qtl. will be deducted.

Rajasthan Upto 9% with value cut @ % th of one value cut (i)Upto 10% without value cut for every additional relaxation of 2% or part (ii) Above 10 upto 50% with % th of one value thereof, i.e. for above 6 upto 8% @ Rs.3.63 per cut on flat basis or say Rs. 3.63 per quintal. quintal and for above 8 upto 9% @ Rs 7.25 per qtl. will be deducted.

Haryana Upto 10% with value cut @ V th of one value cut (i) Upto 10% without value cut for every additional relaxation of 2% or part (ii) Above 10 upto 95% in Kaithal district, thereof, i.e. for above 6 upto 8% @ Rs.3.63 per upto 90% in Mewat, Sonapat ,Jind, Palwal , quintal and for above 8 upto 10% @ Rs 7.25 per Faridabad & Kurkshetra districts, upto 80% qtl. will be deducted. in Karnal, Hissar, Fatehabad & Panipat districts and upto 50% in rest of the State with V th of one value cut on flat basis or say Rs. 3.63 per quintal

Uttar Upto 10% with value cut @ % th of one value (i)Upto 10% without value cut

Pradesh cut for every additional relaxation of 2% or (ii) Above 10 upto 50% with 1/4 th of one part thereof, i.e. for above 6 upto 8% @ value cut on flat basis or say Rs.3.63 per quintal and for above 8 upto 10% Rs. 3.63 per quintal. @ Rs 7.25 per qtl. will be deducted.

Punjab Upto 10% with value cut @ 1/4 th of one value (i) Upto 10% without value cut cut for every additional relaxation of 2% or (ii) Above 10 upto 50% with 1/4 th of one part thereof, i.e. for above 6 upto 8% @ value cut on flat basis or say Rs.3.63 per quintal and for above 8 upto 10% Rs. 3.63 per quintal. @ Rs 7.25 per qtl. will be deducted.

Uniform 6% Full Luster  
specifications

Wheat can be procured with damaged and slightly damaged grains put together upto 6% with the condition that damaged grains alone may not be exceed more than 4%.

The relaxation in wheat specifications allowed in case of Punjab has also been extended to UT Chandigarh.

(c & d ) Government of India in consultation with State Governments has fixed estimated target of 300 lakh tons of Wheat to be procured during RMS 2015-16. State-wise details are as under:-

State	Punjab	Haryan	Madhya	Uttar	Rajasthan	Uttarakhar	Other	Total
	Prades	Prades	States					
Target	120	70	60	30	18	1.5	0.5	300

(lakh tons)

As on 23.4.2015 a quantity of 86.23 lakh tons of wheat has been procured so far as compared to 100.8 lakh tons during the same period in RMS 2014-15. The slow pace in procurement has been due to late arrival of wheat in mandies on account of intermittent rains. The Central Government extends price support to paddy and wheat through the FCI and State Agencies. All the foodgrains conforming to the prescribed specifications offered for sale at specified centres are bought by the public procurement agencies at the Minimum Support Price (MSP). With a view to help the farmers and to avoid distress sale, relaxation in quality norms for procurement of wheat with a nominal value cut has been allowed. Instructions have been issued to FCI & State Government for opening procurement centres at locations convenient to farmers.