

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1287
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18 DECEMBER, 2018

CORRUPTION IN PADDY PROCUREMENT

1287. SHRI NAGENDRA PRATAP SINGH PATEL:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has received any complaint of corruption in paddy procurement in Uttar Pradesh;
- (b) if so, whether the complaints has been received that high quality of paddy is being declared as substandard by purchase centres and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the farmers are given less price citing certain deficiency despite the cost of paddy being Rs. 1750 per quintal and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether such work is taking place in connivance with middlemen and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether the paddy is being purchased down by the farmers at low price and the same paddy is sold at higher price by middlemen and if so, the details thereof?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE FOR CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)

(a): During the procurement of wheat in Rabi Marketing Season (RMS) 2018-19 and paddy in Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2018-19, one complaint of corruption was received by FCI from Shri Kali Prasad Pandey, Ex-MP (Lok Sabha) against Manager (QC), FCI, Fatehpur (UP).

(b): No such complaint has come to the notice of Department of Food and Public Distribution, Government of India that high quality of paddy is being declared as substandard by purchase centres.

(c) to (e): There exists a transparent and uniform policy for procurement by Government Agencies across the country. Under this policy, whatever wheat and paddy are offered by farmers within the stipulated period, conforming to the specifications (Fair Average Quality norms) prescribed in advance by Government of India (GOI), is purchased at Minimum Support Price (MSP) by the Government Agencies including Food Corporation of India (FCI), for Central Pool.