

Target of Custom Milled Rice (CMR)

1277. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether FCI has not taken any steps to achieve target and to receive custom milled rice (CMR) from paddy procuring agencies although there is sufficient godowns and technical man power with FCI; and

(b) whether it is a fact that wheat has occupied most of the food storage depots of FCI in Odisha though there is less demand of wheat by consumers in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) No, Sir. Food Corporation of India (FCI) has taken all possible steps to achieve targets and to accept the Custom Milled Rice from paddy procuring agencies by utilizing the existing manpower and available godown space.

(b) No, Sir. As on 19.3.2012, a storage capacity of 5,94,796 tonnes was available in Odisha against which 1,22,962 tonnes of wheat was available occupying only 20% of the available storage capacity. Average off take of wheat in Odisha is 39,750 tonnes per month and wheat available in Odisha is sufficient to cover only 3 months public distribution system and other allocation requirements.

Revision of wholesale and retail transportation charges of sugar

1278. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Karnataka Government had approached the Central Government for revision of wholesale and retail transportation charges and for release of Rs. 1,27,59,095/- representing 10 per cent sugar deficit amount withheld by FCI in respect of sugar during the last several years;

(b) whether this request from the State Government has been considered by the Central Government; and

(c) if so, by when the State Government could expect to get a positive response in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The proposals for revision of the margins for the years 2003-04 to 2008-09 have been received from the Karnataka Government and are under process. In the meanwhile, the payments, on provisional basis, are being released to the State Government on the basis of pre-revised rates. The Food corporation of India (FCI) has intimated that Rs. 1,27,59,095/- representing 10 per cent sugar deficit amount withheld by them, has been paid by their Regional Office, Bangalore on 29.08.2011.