Amendment in Metrology Rules

349. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a)   whether Government has amended the Legal Metrology (packaged commodities) Rules, recently deleting the proviso that permitted non-standardized packaging of some commodities; and

(b)   if so, the impact of measure on the consumers and the manufacturers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Yes Sir, the Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 2011 were amended vide GSR 784(E) dated 24th October, 2011 and vide GSR 426(E) dated 5th June, 2012 by which the provision of rule 5 has been omitted which EARLIER permitted the manufacturers to pack some commodities in non-standard sizes.

(b)   This amendment will have a positive impact in market in so far as consumers will get products only in standard size so that they can easily compare the prices and decide. The manufacturers will also benefit from perfect competition in market.

Procurement of rice from mill owners

350. SHRI BHARATSINH PRABHATSINH PARMAR:
       SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA:

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

(a)   what action has been taken by Food Corporation of India on the incident that in Puducherry FCI is procuring paddy from rice mill owners directly instead of procuring from farmers due to which farmers are suffering heavy financial loss; and

(b)   by when the Ministry is going to address the concern of fanning community?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) There is no such report of FCI directly procuring paddy from mills in Puducherry. Puducherry is a Decentralised Procurement (DCP) State and the responsibility of procuring paddy from farmers is that of the Puducherry Government. Food Corporation of India (FCI) supplements the effort of Puducherry Government by setting up of procurement