

***Statement***

*Details of the complaint received and action taken regarding supply of poor quality of foodgrains under PDS during 2015-16 upto 01st December, 2015*

State	Complaint	Action Taken by the Government
NCT, Delhi	A complaint was received from Indraprastha Welfare Association, New Delhi regarding Supply of poor quality of foodgrain in Moti Nagar, area of Delhi	The complaint was got investigated by deputing an officer of the Ministry. The complaint was not found to be true based on the samples collected from Fair Price Shops and FCI godown.
Maharashtra	A Complaint received from Secretary, Food Civil Supplies and Consumer Protection Department, Govt. of Maharashtra regarding supply of luster loss wheat from FCI base depot, Jalgoan and MSWC, Nanded	Instructions were issued to all State Governments to accept the luster loss wheat procured during RMS 2015-16 under the relaxed specifications as luster lost wheat is as nutritious as sound wheat only shining is less and the quality of wheat is intact and good.
Jammu and Kashmir	A Complaint was received from Director, Consumer Affair and Public Distribution, Government of Jammu and Kashmir regarding Supply of below standard quality wheat under wheat relaxation scheme	-do-

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**Strengthening marketing arrangements for pulses**

2335. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Food Corporation of India (FCI) has any procurement mechanism for pulses, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(b) the fresh steps taken by Government for strengthening marketing arrangements for pulses to encourage farmers to shift more acreage towards pulses?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) Yes, Sir. As decided by the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW), Food Corporation of India (FCI) is procuring pulses at market price under Price Stabilisation Fund (PSF) operation during Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2015-16 for maintaining their buffer stock. The DAC&FW has released ₹ 50 Crores for such procurement. It has also been decided that if market prices of pulses fall below the Minimum Support Price (MSP), FCI shall procure pulses at MSP from the farmers under the Price Support Scheme of the DAC&FW.

(b) Government has decided to engage FCI as an additional Central Nodal Agency for procurement of pulses in the country along with National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation (NAFED) and Small Farmers Agri-business Consortium (SFAC), which will help farmers to have ample opportunity of deriving the best price for their produce.

#### **Monitoring of price-rise**

2336. DR. T. N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government agrees that the food miles, that is the distance covered from field to stomach, is large and day-by-day expanding which is thereby increasing the prices of vegetables and fruits;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto and the steps taken or to be taken in this regard;

(c) whether Government proposes to set up any regulatory/monitoring agency to monitor and regulate the demand and supply of vegetables and fruits to keep their prices under control, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which such monitoring agency is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) Increase in prices of essential commodities including vegetables and fruits is due to several factors like reduced production due