

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 562
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23RD JULY, 2021

**INTRODUCTION OF BIOMETRIC AUTHENTICATION OF FARMERS FOR
PROCUREMENT OF AGRICULTURE PRODUCE**

562 SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI:

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

- (a) whether Government is encouraging States for introduction of biometric authentication of farmers for procurement of products falling under MSP to eliminate middlemen;
- (b) if so, the States which have responded positively and have accepted to make online payment to farmers against the produces procured;
- (c) whether the online payments to the farmers would be released from the upcoming procurement season of 2020-21; and
- (d) whether Government would ensure that the payment to the farmers is not delayed, as is the current practice?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND CONSUMER
AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI)

(a) to (d): Yes Sir. Government of India is encouraging States for introduction of biometric authentication of farmers for procurement of wheat and rice in central pool under MSP in order to eliminate middlemen.

Most of the State Governments have already developed their own Online Procurement System which ushers in transparency and convenience to the farmers through proper registration and monitoring of actual procurement. Through this Online Procurement System, payment to the farmers is done by electronic mode. Online payments to the farmers is already done through online mode by FCI/ State Governments across the country.

Further, States are encouraged to make direct payment to farmers within 48 hours of the purchase of their produce.
