

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

RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO.64
TO BE ANSWERED ON 3RD DECEMBER, 2021

PROCUREMENT OF RICE FROM TELANGANA

64 DR. K. KESHA RAO:

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

- (a) whether the Central Government plans to procure entire rice irrespective of type from the State of Telangana;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the details of rice irrespective of type procured by the Central Government for the years 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021, State-wise?

A N S W E R
MINISTER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY, CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC
DISTRIBUTION AND TEXTILES
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) to (c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF THE
STARRED QUESTION NO. *64 FOR ANSWER ON 03.12.2021 IN THE RAJYA
SABHA.**

(a) and (b): Telangana has adopted Decentralized Procurement (DCP) Scheme for procurement of paddy under which, the State Government itself undertakes direct purchase of paddy from farmers, stores and distributes the procured Custom Milled Rice (CMR) under National Food Security Act (NFSA) and Other Welfare Schemes (OWS). Only the surplus CMR, after meeting the State's requirement, is delivered to Food Corporation of India (FCI) for Central Pool account for movement to other deficit/consuming States. Type of rice to be accepted by FCI is decided as per requirement in deficit/consuming States.

(c): State-wise details of equivalent rice of actual paddy procured under central pool from KMS 2018-19 to 2020-21 is at **Annexure – I** and State-wise details of paddy procured under central pool during KMS 2021-22 (Kharif crop) up to 29.11.2021 is at **Annexure-II**.

ANNEXURE-I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (c) OF THE STARRED QUESTION NO. *64 FOR ANSWER ON 03.12.2021 IN THE RAJYA SABHA.

EQUIVALENT RICE OF ACTUAL PADDY PROCURED FOR CENTRAL POOL

[Figures in LMT]

S. No.	STATES/ UTs	KMS 2018-19	KMS 2019-20	KMS 2020-21
1	Andhra Pradesh	48.06	55.33	56.67
2	Telangana	51.90	74.54	94.54
3	Assam	1.03	2.11	1.41
4	Bihar	9.49	13.41	23.84
5	Chandigarh	0.13	0.15	0.19
6	Chattisgarh	39.71	50.53	46.72
7	Gujarat	0.09	0.14	0.74
8	Haryana	39.41	43.07	37.89
9	Himachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00
10	Jharkhand	1.53	2.55	4.27
11	Jammu & Kashmir	0.09	0.10	0.25
12	Karnataka	0.59	0.41	1.38
13	Kerala	4.65	4.83	5.20
14	Madhya Pradesh	13.95	17.40	24.97
15	Maharashtra	5.80	11.67	12.63
16	Odisha	44.47	47.98	52.58
17	Puducherry	0.00	0.00	0.00
18	Punjab	113.34	108.76	135.89
19	Rajasthan	0.00	0.00	0.00
20	NEF (Tripura)	0.07	0.14	0.17
21	Tamilnadu	12.94	22.04	30.53
22	Uttar Pradesh	32.33	37.90	44.79
23	Uttrakhand	4.62	6.82	7.18
24	West Bengal	19.79	18.38	18.90
Total		443.99	518.26	600.74

KMS- Kharif Marketing Season (Oct-Sept) paddy procurement of both crops Kharif and Rabi is counted in this.

ANNEXURE-II

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (c) OF THE STARRED QUESTION NO. *64 FOR ANSWER ON 03.12.2021 IN THE RAJYA SABHA.

PADDY PROCUREMENT FOR CENTRAL POOL

[Figures in LMT]

S. No.	STATES/ UTs	KMS 2021-22 (Kharif crop) #
1	Andhra Pradesh	0.62
2	Telangana	16.14
3	Assam	0.00
4	Bihar	1.10
5	Chandigarh	0.27
6	Chattisgarh	0.00
7	Gujarat	0.20
8	Haryana	55.31
9	Himachal Pradesh	0.24
10	Jharkhand	0.00
11	Jammu & Kashmir	0.28
12	Karnataka	0.00
13	Kerala	0.82
14	Madhya Pradesh	0.00
15	Maharashtra	0.05
16	Odisha	0.02
17	Puducherry	0.00
18	Punjab	186.72
19	Rajasthan	0.07
20	NEF (Tripura)	0.00
21	Tamilnadu	4.65
22	Uttar Pradesh	11.54
23	Uttarakhand	11.55
24	West Bengal	0.00
Total		289.58

upto 29.11.2021.

भारत सरकार
उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्रालय
खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण विभाग
राज्य सभा
तारांकित प्रश्न संख्या 64
03 दिसम्बर, 2021 के लिए प्रश्न
तेलंगाना से चावल की खरीद

*64 डॉ. के. केशव राव:

क्या उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या केन्द्र सरकार की तेलंगाना सरकार से सारा चावल चाहे वह किसी भी किस्म का हो, खरीदने की योजना है;

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है और यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं; और

(ग) केन्द्र सरकार द्वारा वर्ष 2018, 2019, 2020 और 2021 के लिए खरीदे गए चावल, चाहे वह किसी भी किस्म का हो, का राज्य-वार ब्यौरा क्या है?

उत्तर

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग तथा उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण तथा वस्त्र मंत्री
(श्री पीयूष गोयल)

(क) से (ग): विवरण सभा पटल पर रख दिया गया है।

राज्य सभा में दिनांक 03.12. 2021 को उत्तरार्थ तारांकित प्रश्न संख्या 64 के भाग (क) से (ग) के उत्तर के संदर्भ में विवरण

(क) और (ख): तेलंगाना ने धान की खरीद के लिए विकेंद्रीकृत खरीद (डीसीपी) स्कीम अपनाई है, जिसके अंतर्गत राज्य सरकार स्वयं ही सीधे किसानों से धान खरीदती है और खरीदे गए कस्टम मिल्ड चावल (सीएमआर) का राष्ट्रीय खाद्य सुरक्षा अधिनियम (एनएफएसए) और अन्य कल्याणकारी योजनाओं के तहत भण्डारण तथा वितरण करती है। राज्य की आवश्यकता पूरी करने के उपरांत, केवल अधिशेष सीएमआर को ही कमी/उपभोग वाले राज्यों को संचलन हेतु केन्द्रीय पूल खाते के लिए भारतीय खाद्य निगम (एफसीआई) को भेजा जाता है। भारतीय खाद्य निगम द्वारा स्वीकृत चावल की किस्म का निर्णय कमी/उपभोग वाले राज्यों की आवश्यकता के अनुसार किया जाता है।

(ग): खरीफ विपणन मौसम 2018-19 से 2020-21 तक केन्द्रीय पूल के अंतर्गत खरीदे गए वास्तविक धान के समतुल्य चावल का राज्य-वार ब्यौरा अनुबंध-I में दिया गया है और खरीफ विपणन मौसम 2021-22 (खरीफ फसल) दिनांक 29.11.2021 तक के दौरान केन्द्रीय पूल के तहत खरीदे गए धान का राज्य-वार ब्यौरा अनुबंध-II में दिया गया है।

राज्य सभा में दिनांक 03.12.2021 को उत्तरार्थ तारांकित प्रश्न सं. 64 के उत्तर के भाग (ग) में उल्लिखित अनुबंध

अनुबंध-1

केंद्रीय पूल के लिए खरीदे गए वास्तविक धान के समतुल्य चावल

[आंकड़े लाख टन में]

क्र.सं	राज्य/संघ राज्य क्षेत्र	केएमएस 2018-19	केएमएस 2019-20	केएमएस 2020-21
1	आंध्र प्रदेश	48.06	55.33	56.67
2	तेलंगाना	51.90	74.54	94.54
3	असम	1.03	2.11	1.41
4	बिहार	9.49	13.41	23.84
5	चंडीगढ़	0.13	0.15	0.19
6	छत्तीसगढ़	39.71	50.53	46.72
7	गुजरात	0.09	0.14	0.74
8	हरियाणा	39.41	43.07	37.89
9	हिमाचल प्रदेश	0.00	0.00	0.00
10	झारखंड	1.53	2.55	4.27
11	जम्मू एवं कश्मीर	0.09	0.10	0.25
12	कर्नाटक	0.59	0.41	1.38
13	केरल	4.65	4.83	5.20
14	मध्य प्रदेश	13.95	17.40	24.97
15	महाराष्ट्र	5.80	11.67	12.63
16	ओडिशा	44.47	47.98	52.58
17	पुडुचेरी	0.00	0.00	0.00
18	पंजाब	113.34	108.76	135.89
19	राजस्थान	0.00	0.00	0.00
20	एनडिफ(त्रिपुरा)	0.07	0.14	0.17
21	तमिलनाडु	12.94	22.04	30.53
22	उत्तर प्रदेश	32.33	37.90	44.79
23	उत्तराखण्ड	4.62	6.82	7.18
24	पश्चिम बंगाल	19.79	18.38	18.90
कुल		443.99	518.26	600.74

केएमएस- खरीफ विपणन मौसम (अक्टूबर-सितंबर) में खरीफ और रबी दोनों फसलों की धान की खरीद को गिना जाता है।

राज्य सभा में दिनांक 03.12.2021 को उत्तरार्थ तारांकित प्रश्न सं. 64 के उत्तर के भाग (ग) में उल्लिखित अनुबंध

केंद्रीय पूल के लिए धान की खरीद

[आंकड़े लाख टन में]

क्र. सं	राज्य/संघ राज्य क्षेत्र	केएमएस 2021-22 (खरीफ फसल) #
1	आंध्र प्रदेश	0.62
2	तेलंगाना	16.14
3	असम	0.00
4	बिहार	1.10
5	चंडीगढ़	0.27
6	छत्तीसगढ़	0.00
7	गुजरात	0.20
8	हरियाणा	55.31
9	हिमाचल प्रदेश	0.24
10	झारखंड	0.00
11	जम्मू एवं कश्मीर	0.28
12	कर्नाटक	0.00
13	केरल	0.82
14	मध्य प्रदेश	0.00
15	महाराष्ट्र	0.05
16	ओडिशा	0.02
17	पुडुचेरी	0.00
18	पंजाब	186.72
19	राजस्थान	0.07
20	एनइएफ(त्रिपुरा)	0.00
21	तमिलनाडु	4.65
22	उत्तर प्रदेश	11.54
23	उत्तराखंड	11.55
24	पश्चिम बंगाल	0.00
कुल		289.58

दिनांक 29.11.2021 तक

DR. K. KESHAVA RAO: Sir, I would not try to complicate anything by asking this question or that question. My simple straight question is, whether the Central Government plans to procure entire rice irrespective of type from the State of Telangana; and I have already got the answer from a Union Cabinet Minister who says, "I, as a Union Cabinet Minister of the Central Government, say that every piece of grain will be procured by the Central Government." This is the stand of the Central Government. Does the Government stand by this statement that whatever we produce will be procured by the Central Government? This is quantum of that CMR left which is called Marketable Surplus. Whenever we are selling, it is surplus of what we use it for our consumption and we use it for welfare programmes. That is milled rice. What is left is that we are talking about. Let us not confuse the thing. We are only talking of what is left with us. Last year, you took 94 lakh tonnes. This year you have taken 19 lakh tonnes. Perhaps, you would take further. Will you, at least, take that 94 lakh tonnes which you have taken last year? So, this is the simple question.

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Sir, I do not know what other statements have been referred to but I would like to highlight to the august House(Interruptions)...

DR. K. KESHAVA RAO: I am quoting the(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please, please. ... (Interruptions)... Please, Keshava Raoji, let us hear the reply of the Minister. Please.

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: But I can only share with this august House and with the hon. Member that consistently, year-on-year, the Central Government has been increasing the procurement of rice for the Central Pool. From the Annexure given to all of the hon. Members, you will observe, Sir, that this Government has increased the paddy procured for milling of rice for the Central Pool from 443 lakh tonnes in 2018-19 KMS to 518 lakh tonnes and then to 600 lakh tonnes in KMS 2020-21. I am grateful that the hon. Member has acknowledged that even in the State of Telangana, we have increased the procurement from 51.9 lakh tonnes to 74.54 lakh tonnes to 94.54 lakh tonnes. This is the track record of the Modi Government, and which is why we say that this has been the most responsive Government to the farmers' interest and the procurement under MSP operations done by the Government has increased manifold both in volume and in value.

Sir, as regards the State of Telangana, in the KMS 2020-21, the procurement which is under reference, in the *kharif* season, they had estimated that they would

give us 50 lakh tonnes. What they were finally able to give was only 32.66 lakh tonnes. In the *rabi* season, they had estimated 55 lakh tonnes. Finally, they are saying that they have procured paddy to make it 61.87 lakh tonnes. On our part, we have agreed that we would procure the rice and the material that they provide us up to 94.53 lakh tonnes, which they are claiming that they have procured. But even today, as we speak, 29 lakh tonnes are pending. They have not yet been able to give the agreed quantity. I don't know why this issue has been made political in the State of Telangana. They still have to give us 29 lakh tonnes. When we asked them for physical verification and our teams went there for physical verification, a number of discrepancies were found in the stock. In fact, the stock was not even maintained in a proper manner. We had been giving extensions month after month. We have been supporting the State Government in every possible way. Despite all that, I don't see the reason why a simple issue should be politicized again and again. We are saying that there is an MoU that we follow. It is based on that that we are buying rice from all over the country; it is done in a certain fashion. There is a regular process that has been going on for years. The hon. Minister for Agriculture has already announced on the floor of the House that MSP operations would go on as they are going on now. But again and again, if they want us to make specific fresh statements in different formats, I don't see any reason for that, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Dr. Keshava Rao; second supplementary.

DR. K. KESHAVA RAO: Sir, my question to you is, did you understand it? You may have understood it, but I didn't. I have not asked the Minister for anything. I have not asked you for MSP. I have not asked you about what is left with us. The simple thing is, you have been responsive and we thank you for that. Please continue to be responsive. Tell us on the floor of the House...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please...

DR. K. KESHAVA RAO: Sir, that is what he said, that he was responsive and he took 94.54 lakh tonnes last year. If you are responsive, we thank you for that. Will you continue to be responsive and take 94.54 plus the increase. Because there is a 78 per cent increase in production, as you have yourself verified? What is the increase that you will take? That is our question. The hon. Member here raised a point about boiled rice during the Zero Hour. When you say *rabi* crop, it is only boiled rice. Will you take boiled rice too? If yes, how much would you take?

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Hon. Deputy Chairman, Sir, in the current season itself, they have not yet supplied the rice that they were expected to supply. ...(*Interruptions*)... We are asking them to first complete what is pending, the 29 lakh tonnes that are still pending from the State of Telangana. They have not yet supplied that. First they should complete that supply and after that, if there is still any problem, they can approach the Government and appropriate decisions as per the MoU would be taken. Ultimately, everything has been working as per a system for so many years. We have a Memorandum of Understanding with all the States, including the State of Telangana. They have to stick to the MoU and supply the rice to us.

DR. K. KESHA RAO: That was when it was restricted to 50; now you are talking about 94.54 lakh tonnes. That is exactly... ...(*Interruptions*)... Sir, please. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Dr. Sasmit Patra. ...(*Interruptions*)... Let us move on now. Dr. Sasmit Patra.

डा. सस्मित पात्रा : माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, यह सवाल हालांकि तेलंगाना से संबंधित है, लेकिन कहीं-न-कहीं इसकी एक रिलेशनशिप ओडिशा के साथ भी है। उपसभापति महोदय, फूड कॉरपोरेशन ऑफ इंडिया ने इसी साल एक पॉलिसी निकाली और कहा कि क्योंकि मार्केट में glut है, इस वजह से parboiled rice, जिसे ओडिशा में हम लोग 'उसना चावड़ा' बोलते हैं, वह फूड कॉरपोरेशन ऑफ इंडिया से अभी लिफ्ट नहीं हो सकता है। उसके बाद, माननीय मंत्री जी से हमारी मुलाकात हुई और उन्होंने हमारी मदद भी की। तब उन्होंने यह भी बताया कि हम parboiled rice की लिफ्टिंग किस तरह से कर सकते हैं, कैसे सरप्लस राइस ले सकते हैं। अब, फिर से यह सुनने में आ रहा है कि as a policy फूड कॉरपोरेशन ऑफ इंडिया parboiled rice, जोकि सरप्लस राइस होता है, उसे लिफ्ट नहीं करेगा, चाहे वह ओडिशा से हो या तेलंगाना से हो। तो माननीय मंत्री जी से एक दरखास्त यह है कि parboiled rice का जो surplus rice है, उसको lift करने की आवश्यकता है, क्योंकि हमारे जो किसान हैं, वे parboiled rice ही ज्यादातर produce करते हैं। मेरा माननीय मंत्री जी से अनुरोध है कि जो parboiled rice होता है, जो surplus rice ओडिशा और अन्य राज्यों में है, उसके सम्बन्ध में Food Corporation of India को निर्देश दें कि वह उसकी lifting करे।

श्री पीयूष गोयल: महोदय, भारत सरकार ने बड़े संवेदनशील तरीके से, तेलंगाना और ओडिशा, दोनों राज्यों की मदद की है। उनकी पुरानी जो practices थीं, उनमें जितनी ज्यादा मदद हम कर सकते थे, वह मदद हमने की है, लेकिन यह भी सच्चाई है कि clause 18 में MoU बड़ा स्पष्ट कहता है, अगर चाहिए तो मैं पढ़कर बता सकता हूँ: "If the stocks of the rice procured by

the State Government exceeds its allocation under TPDS and Other Welfare Schemes (OWS), such excess stocks shall be handed over to the FCI by the State Government. However, the FCI shall have the option to specify whether such excess rice that would be handed over to FCI for Central Pool by the State shall be in the form of raw rice or parboiled rice to meet the overall consumption requirement of the country under TPDS, OWS and type of rice milled in the State."

...(Interruptions)... परिस्थिति यह है कि जिस राज्य के लोग जिस प्रकार का चावल खाना चाहते हैं, हम वही चावल दे सकते हैं। उसके अलावा चावल को हम force तो नहीं कर सकते हैं। ओडिशा, तेलंगाना या जो भी राज्य हैं, उनमें लोग जिस प्रकार के rice का खुद consumption करते हैं, उसे जितना चाहे, वे ले सकते हैं और distribute कर सकते हैं। जो Central Pool में आना है, वह वही rice आ सकता है, जो बाकी राज्यों की requirement के हिसाब से हो, उसके हिसाब से ही rice FCI खरीद सकता है। यह बड़ी simple logical चीज़ है कि जो स्वयं की consumption है, आप जिस प्रकार का rice बनाना चाहते हैं, बनाइये, जितना आपको ओडिशा में parboiled rice खाना है, वह ओडिशा में parboiled rice बने, आप उसकी खपत करें, उसके लिए आपका पूरा स्वागत है, उसके लिए FCI आपको reimbursement करेगी। लेकिन आप जो Central Pool में डालना चाहते हैं, उसके लिए अगर देश में पर्याप्त डिमांड देश में नहीं है, अन्य कोई उस प्रकार का rice नहीं खाता है तो स्वाभाविक रूप से FCI ने इसीलिए clause रखा है: "To meet the overall consumption requirement of the country under TPDS, OWS and type of rice milled in the State." तो आपकी खुद की खपत के लिए आप जो rice चाहें, अवश्य ले सकते हैं। आप उसे बनायें, उसको अपने स्टेट में इस्तेमाल करें, लेकिन उस प्रकार के चावल की बाकी राज्यों में जब तक demand नहीं होगी, तब तक हम उस rice को नहीं खरीद सकते हैं। जैसी demand होगी, उस हिसाब से rice FCI पर्याप्त मात्रा में खरीदेगा।

SHRI K.R. SURESH REDDY: Hon. Deputy Chairman, Sir, kindly give me one minute because during the course of the reply, the hon. Minister has cast aspersion. He spoke about certain discrepancies between the State and the Centre.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please put your question.

SHRI K.R. SURESH REDDY: This needs to be clarified because when it comes from the hon. Minister, the record has to be set straight. There has been a doubt by Government of India regarding the quantum of rice grown in Telangana for which the officials of the Government of India went to Telangana. They verified the quota and projection given and the area sown. It was verified and concluded that it was almost 99.99 per cent same. So, there is no discrepancy. I want to set that record straight. The second thing they asked was: How did you grow so much? In the last four or five years, there has been tremendous investment in the irrigation sector which resulted in

more area coming under irrigation and more area coming under paddy? The third point which we have been agitating for a while is this. Hon. Minister's statement here is contrary to the hon. Minister's statement in Telangana. Hon. Minister says that they will not buy parboiled rice because they have sufficient stock. The Minister in Telangana says that we will buy every grain of rice. So, through you, I would like to clarify through FCI, they have a record of the buffer stock. They have a record of the parboiled rice. So, if you feel that you have sufficient parboiled...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please...

SHRI K.R. SURESH REDDY: Let me conclude, Sir. We have been agitating.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please be brief.

SHRI K.R. SURESH REDDY: They have the record. We have enough parboiled rice to feed the country for two years. Tell us not to grow parboiled rice. The reason we are agitating today is that आज वहां फसल का काम शुरू हो गया है। People have started sowing for Rabi crop. If the Minister says that he will let us know in March, what will we do then?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, please conclude.

SHRI K.R. SURESH REDDY: Kindly bear with me. Let the hon. Minister be very specific. Will he procure in Rabi or not because the procurement in Rabi would be only parboiled rice from Odisha and Telangana?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Reddy, please.

SHRI K.R. SURESH REDDY: Sir, I appreciate you for giving me time.

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, when I was referring to discrepancies, I was referring to the stocks, about which I have written to their hon. Minister also on 7th October. In one district of Warangal alone, there was a shortage of paddy stock of 25,303 metric ton, which is why this will always be an estimate. There cannot be a hundred per cent certainty. For that matter, I would like to draw your attention to what happened in the previous year. In the previous year also, we had allowed them a larger quantity to be procured and supplied. But, finally, they

were not able to supply. So, if I may quote, for example, in 2019-20 season, they had said that they would give us 61.92 lakh metric tonnes, but they were able to supply us only 42.99 lakh metric tonnes. So, this is something which continues to happen. Very often, they give us estimates which are pretty inaccurate or go beyond what the real supplies are. So, this is something which different States face at different times, but I have not agitated. ...(*Interruptions*)... Please, I am answering the other Member. Can I answer his own Member? I am answering his point. ...(*Interruptions*)... So, I am saying that these estimates are all given by the States. We do a test check. The Agriculture Ministry tries its best. Ultimately, these are large areas. I have appealed to the State of Telangana and all other States that they should emulate the Karnataka model. Karnataka has come up with an excellent programme called 'FRUITS', under which they map in the entire State physically. Boys and girls go, take photographs, geo-map and see what the output is. They come to pretty good number of accurate figures.

Having said that, I have repeatedly been saying on record that first, they have to supply the quantity that they have, for which, if they have to procure, they should procure the paddy in their State. They have to still give us 29 lakh metric tonnes for the current procurement that is going on. I have already given them, I think, four or five extensions. It is a matter of record that again and again, they come for extension. Our Government has never refused it. So, the fact is that we have extended all possible help and given a third extension, fourth extension and a fifth extension as per my letter of 7th October. Despite that, they are not able to give us the stock. In the stock that they have to still give us since they have raised parboiled rice, their original target for parboiled rice was 24.75 lakh metric tonnes. They came to me and asked for an increase. I increased it from 24.75 lakh metric tonnes, as a one-time measure, to 44.75 lakh metric tonnes. Out of that also, to date, we have received only 27.78 lakh metric tonnes. Seventeen lakh metric tonnes is still pending for what has been agreed. So, they are jumping into the future without supplying what has already been agreed. That is one point.

Second, their own State Government has confirmed to us in writing, based on the clause No.18 of the FCI MoU with them for the future, and that was a gentleman agreement between the State and us. We have discussed it with all the States. I saw some placards about uniform policy. I would like to re-assure this House that we have a uniform MSP policy, which is continuing for all parts of the country. According to that, para 18 clearly states it. I can only buy what the States are willing to consume, and, therefore, we had indicated well in advance that it will be for the future. The problem is that they are mixing up the past and the future. Let me quote

the letter dated 4th October, 2021 from Telangana Government confirming that the State shall not deliver parboiled rice to FCI in future. Based on that, we said, okay, even though we have lot of stock, we will procure all the rice which you currently have. I do not know why again and again this issue is being raised. Please supply the 17 lakh tonnes. I have already told your Chief Minister ...(Interruptions)... Sir, I have also told their Chief Minister that if after this, some small quantity is there, I will be accommodating that also on the basis of the commitment that in future they will not supply us parboiled rice. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Now, Dr. Ashok Bajpai.

SHRI SHAKTISINH GOHIL: Sir, I think, we should have an half-an-hour discussion on this issue. ...(Interruptions)...

DR. K. KESHA RAO: Sir, this issue should be discussed. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI K. R. SURESH REDDY: Sir, let us have a discussion. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Suresh Reddy ji, you have been the Speaker of an Assembly. You know the rules. ...(Interruptions)...

DR. K. KESHA RAO: Sir, please allow an half-an-hour discussion on this issue. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Keshava Rao ji, there is a process. You speak to the hon. Chairman. He will take a decision. ...(Interruptions)... You are a senior Member, Keshava Rao ji. Please give proper notice. I think, hon. Chairman will take care of this. ...(Interruptions)... Dr. Ashok Bajpai, please put your supplementary question.

डा. अशोक बाजपेयी: उपसभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि जो केंद्र में rice procurement की योजना है, क्या इसमें सभी प्रकार का rice procure किया जाता है या कोई discrimination है कि मोटा चावल, महीन चावल या कौन सा चावल इससे लिया जाता है? क्या इस तरह की कोई योजना है?

श्री पीयूष गोयल: FAQs हैं, quality standards defined हैं, उसके हिसाब से rice लिया जाता है।

DR. K. KESHA RAO: Sir, please listen to me.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Keshava Rao ji, this is Question Hour. Let Question Hour continue. I request you to please follow the procedure and give notice.

DR. K. KESHAHA RAO: Sir, we have no option but to walk out.

(At this stage, some hon. Members left the Chamber.)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let us take up the next question. Q. No.65.