

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 367
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 04/04/2025

PRICE SUPPORT MEASURES UNDER PM-AASHA

*367. SHRI MASTHAN RAO YADAV BEEDHA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the measures being taken under Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA) initiative to ensure that farmers receive remunerative prices for their agricultural products;
- (b) if so, details thereof;
- (c) the manner in which Government plans to monitor and evaluate effectiveness of price support schemes for crops like pulses, oilseeds and copra;
- (d) the anticipated impact of PM AASHA on income and livelihoods of farmers across States, particularly in Andhra Pradesh; and
- (e) measures taken to support paddy farmers of Nellore and other districts in Andhra Pradesh who are not getting remunerative prices in open market and facing difficulties in supply to Government?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
(SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (e) OF THE RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 367 FOR 04/04/2025 REGARDING PRICE SUPPORT MEASURES UNDER PM-AASHA.

(a) to (c) : The integrated Scheme of Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA) comprises of Price Support Scheme (PSS), Price Deficiency Payment Scheme (PDPS), Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) and Price Stabilization Fund (PSF). The integrated scheme of PM-AASHA aims to bring-in more effectiveness in the implementation of procurement operations that would not only help in providing remunerative prices to the farmers for their produce but also control the price volatility of essential commodities by ensuring their availability at affordable prices to consumers. Department of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare (DA&FW) administers PSS, PDPS and MIS components of PM AASHA while Department of Consumer Affairs administers the PSF scheme. The mode of implementation of PSS, PDPS, MIS and PSF are as follows:-

Price Support Scheme (PSS):

PSS is implemented on the request of the State Govt./ UT that agrees to exempt from levy of Mandi tax on the procurement of notified pulses, oilseeds and copra and make arrangements like booking of Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC)/ State Warehousing Corporation (SWC) Godowns/scientific storage facility, identification of procurement centres, arrangement of gunny bags, GPRS enabled transportation facilities, weighing machines. Moisture/foreign matters/oil content testing machines etc. in consultation with Central Nodal Agencies (CNAs) like National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED) and National Co-operative Consumers' Federation of India Ltd. (NCCF) and State level agencies. The State shall create revolving fund atleast for PSS operations etc. as required under the guidelines of the scheme. It is implemented within the stipulated period as and when the market prices of agricultural commodities fall below the notified MSP during peak harvesting period to provide the remunerative price to the farmers. The procurement of the notified pulses, oilseeds and copra conforming to the prescribed Fair Average Quality (FAQ) are undertaken by the Central Nodal Agencies (CNAs) like NAFED and NCCF at the MSP directly from the pre-registered farmers through the State level agencies.

From the procurement year 2024-25, the sanction for the procurement of notified Pulses, Oilseeds and Copra under PSS is given to the State/UT initially upto a maximum of 25% of the production of the State for that particular season. Subsequently, if the State/UT achieves the overall procurement against sanctioned quantity and further intends to procure more beyond the sanctioned quantity, the proposal for the procurement under the PSS is put up for the consideration of the Committee of Secretaries (CoS) restricted upto a maximum of 25% of the national production. Further, in order to incentivize the farmers for its contribution in the enhancement of domestic production and to reduce the dependence on import, the Government has allowed the procurement of **Tur, Urad and Masur** under PSS equivalent to 100% of the production of the State for the procurement year 2023-24 and extended it further for the year 2024-25 also. The Central Nodal Agencies would undertake the procurement of 100% **Tur (Arhar), Urad and Masur** under PSS from the farmers those registered on e-Samridhi portal of NAFED and e-Sanyukti portal of NCCF.

Price Deficit Payment Scheme (PDPS):

PDPS envisages the direct payment of the price difference between the MSP and the selling / modal price in notified market upto 15% of MSP value (including 2% administrative cost) by the Central Government to the pre-registered farmers selling the oilseeds upto 40% of its production to the prescribed Fair Average Quality (FAQ) in the notified market yard through a transparent auction process within the stipulated period. However, the States/UTs have the option to implement either PSS or PDPS for the particular oilseeds for the particular year/season. If any State is willing to cover quantities beyond 40%, they can do so from its resources.

Market Intervention Scheme (MIS):

Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) is implemented on the request of the State/UT Government for the procurement of various perishable agricultural/horticultural commodities for which Minimum Support Price (MSP) is not applicable and there is a reduction of prices in the market by atleast 10% over the rates of previous normal season in the States/UTs so that the farmers are not constrained to make distress sales of their produce. It is implemented if the States/UT is willing to share the total loss in the ratio of 50:50 between the State and Centre whereas in case of North-Eastern States, the losses to be shared between the Centre and State on 75:25 basis. The procurement is undertaken by the State designated agency upto 25% of the State's production of the particular crop of the prescribed FAQ at fixed Market Intervention Price (MIP) as determined by MIS Committee plus permitted overheads expenses, which is generally of 25% of MIP so that the farmers are not constrained to make distress sales of their produce. However, States/UTs have also an option to make the differential payment between the MIP and Sale Price to the farmers. Moreover, if there is a price difference of TOP crops (Tomato, Onion and Potato) between the producing and consuming states, the Government approves the transportation and storage of these crops from the producing state to the consuming states through the Central Nodal Agencies (CNAs) like NAFED and NCCF for which the expenses is reimbursed by the Government to these agencies.

Price Stabilization Funds (PSF):

Department of Consumer Affairs, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution administers PSF scheme to mitigate the hardships on consumers against the price extreme volatility of agri-horticultural commodities and to ensure the essential food commodities available at affordable prices. The procurement of notified pulses is undertaken at Market Price for maintenance of the buffer stock of pulses directly from pre-registered farmers through NAFED & NCCF after entering into agreement with State Level Agencies/ Primary Agricultural Cooperative Societies.

To strengthen the procurement operations and to ensure smooth implementation of PM-AASHA Scheme, several measures have been taken by the Government as follows:

- (i) For making effective implementation of PM-AASHA and providing maximum benefits of MSP to the farmers, procurement centres are opened by respective State Government Agencies and Central Nodal Agencies like National Agricultural Co-operative Marketing Federation of India Limited (NAFED), National Co-operative Consumer's Federation of India Limited (NCCF) etc.

after taking into account the production, marketable surplus, convenience of farmers and availability of other logistics / infrastructure such as storage and transportation etc. In addition to the existing Mandis and depots/godowns, a large number of procurement centres were also set up at key points for the convenience of farmers.

(ii) Government guarantee has been enhanced to Rs. 45,000 crore to provide maximum working capital to Central Nodal agencies like NAFED and NCCF.

(iii) The farmers are register themselves on eSamriddhi Portal of NAFED and eSanyukti portal of NCCF through Aadhar Based registration for selling their produce.

(iv) Messages via SMS and Whatsapp are delivered to the farmers to make them aware about the procurement to be undertaken by various agencies of the Government.

(v) Agmarknet Portal for daily purchase rates of commodities to make them aware about the current market price while selling their produce.

(vi) Land records of the farmers are fetched directly from the State land records.

(vii) Procurement of notified Pulses and Oilseeds & Copra under PSS has been enhanced to 25% of the National Production from existing 25% of the State production.

(viii) In order to encourage the States / UTs to opt for PDPS, the Government has taken some corrective measures under the scheme. The implementation period of the scheme has been extended from 90 days to 120 days. Further, the support of Central Government has been enhanced from 25% to 40% of the state production for that particular marketing season/year.

(ix) The limit of purchase of the produce from a farmer in a one single day has been enhanced to 40 Quintal from the existing 25 quintals.

(x) MSP for crops is transferred to the bank accounts of the farmers directly.

(d): During the years from 2019-20 to 2024-25, the Government has undertaken the procurement of 106.84 LMT of notified pulses at MSP under PM –AASHA benefitting 55,14,863 farmers in the country which includes procurement of 3.57 LMT of notified pulses at MSP benefitting 2,26,079 farmers in Andhra Pradesh.

Similarly, during the years from 2019-20 to 2024-25, the Government has undertaken the procurement of 85.34 LMT of notified Oilseeds & Copra at MSP under PM- AASHA benefitting 35,47,769 farmers in the country which includes the procurement of 26,507.76 MT of notified Oilseeds & Copra at MSP benefitting 17,079 farmers in Andhra Pradesh.

(e): Andhra Pradesh is a Decentralized Procurement (DCP) State wherein paddy procurement operations are carried out by the State Govt. and its agencies. Being a DCP State, it is primary responsibility of the State Govt. and its designated agencies to ensure that procurement of paddy from farmers remains smooth and hassle free. The estimates and period of procurement of paddy are fixed in consultation with State Government. District-wise/ agency-wise quantity of Paddy procured for Central Pool in Andhra Pradesh by State Government and its agencies during KMS

2024-25 (Kharif Crop) is enclosed as **Annexure-I**. The following measures have been taken up by the State Government to support paddy farmers in the State:

- (i) Wide publicity has been given on MSP rates to the farmers to get remunerative prices.
- (ii) Scheduling of paddy procurement through WhatsApp has been implemented to enable farmers for selling their paddy produce to Government without visiting the procurement centers.
- (iii) Procurement centers have also been opened in all the districts and made necessary arrangements such as gunny bags, labour and transportation have been made to facilitate farmers to sell their paddy to Government on MSP.
- (iv) Procurement has been strengthened at village level and Village Agriculture Assistant has been directed to record the prices of the open market in CMAPP (Continuous Monitoring of Agriculture Prices and Procurement).
- (v) Control rooms have been set up at District Level and State level for monitoring of the Procurement activities.

Annexure-I

S. No	District Name	Procurement Agency				Quantity Procured (MT)	MSP Payment Made (in Lac.)
		Name	Id	Abbreviated Name	Category / Type		
		1	2	3	4		
1	Alluri Sitharama Raju	RSK	123	Rhytu Seva Kendram	[2] State Govt	26,948.92	6,193.57
2	Anakapalli	RSK	123	Rhytu Seva Kendram	[2] State Govt	26,998.08	5,904.05
3	Anantapur	RSK	123	Rhytu Seva Kendram	[2] State Govt	13,912.00	3,227.58
4	Bapatla	RSK	123	Rhytu Seva Kendram	[2] State Govt	91,758.36	21,194.01
5	East Godavari	RSK	123	Rhytu Seva Kendram	[2] State Govt	2,57,501.08	59,219.42
6	Eluru	RSK	123	Rhytu Seva Kendram	[2] State Govt	3,50,833.84	80,779.79
7	Guntur	RSK	123	Rhytu Seva Kendram	[2] State Govt	43,747.00	9,498.46
8	Kakinada	RSK	123	Rhytu Seva Kendram	[2] State Govt	1,60,457.44	36,578.57
9	Konaseema	RSK	123	Rhytu Seva Kendram	[2] State Govt	2,27,415.16	52,291.27
10	Krishna	RSK	123	Rhytu Seva Kendram	[2] State Govt	6,08,894.96	1,37,404.44
11	NTR	RSK	123	Rhytu Seva Kendram	[2] State Govt	1,10,738.80	25,667.37
12	Palnadu	RSK	123	Rhytu Seva Kendram	[2] State Govt	13,795.44	3,141.98
13	Parvathipuram Manyam	RSK	123	Rhytu Seva Kendram	[2] State Govt	2,24,267.84	51,564.41
14	Prakasam	RSK	123	Rhytu Seva Kendram	[2] State Govt	8,879.00	1,872.95
15	SPSR Nellore	RSK	123	Rhytu Seva Kendram	[2] State Govt	72,763.04	8,971.76
16	Srikakulam	RSK	123	Rhytu Seva Kendram	[2] State Govt	5,26,588.66	1,18,053.23
17	Tirupati	RSK	123	Rhytu Seva Kendram	[2] State Govt	63,755.12	11,984.26
18	Visakhapatnam	RSK	123	Rhytu Seva Kendram	[2] State Govt	5,695.32	1,305.81
19	Vizianagaram	RSK	123	Rhytu Seva Kendram	[2] State Govt	3,34,630.60	76,769.89
20	West Godavari	RSK	123	Rhytu Seva Kendram	[2] State Govt	4,17,268.56	95,962.63
21	Y.S.R.	RSK	123	Rhytu Seva Kendram	[2] State Govt	17.60	4.08
					Grand Total	35,86,866.82	8,07,589.52
