

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2857
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20TH DECEMBER, 2023**

PROCUREMENT OF FOODGRAINS BY MILLERS

2857. SHRI NALIN KUMAR KATEEL:

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

- (a) whether it is true that some of the state Governments procured foodgrains from millers and wholesale merchants;
- (b) if so, whether it is also true that some farmer associations made representations demanding for local procurement from farmers; and
- (c) if so, the response of the Government in this regard?

**A N S W E R
MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI)**

(a): State Government through its agencies and Food Corporation of India (FCI) procure paddy/wheat from farmers with prescribed Fair Average Quality (FAQ) specifications at Minimum Support Price (MSP) for central pool. The Government policy of procurement of foodgrains has broad objectives of ensuring MSP to the farmers and availability of foodgrains to the weaker sections at affordable prices. The procurement under Price Support is supposed to ensure procurement of foodgrains from the farmers and remunerative prices to the farmers for their produce, which works as an incentive for achieving better production.

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In major wheat and paddy procuring States like Punjab, Haryana & some parts of Rajasthan, procurement from farmers is undertaken by the FCI/State Agencies through Adathiyas as per APMC Acts of the concerned State for which commission is paid as fixed by the Government of India. In some States like Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Andhra Pradesh, Tamilnadu, Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha and West Bengal procurement is made through societies and they are paid commissions as fixed by the Government of India. However, payment of MSP is being made directly into farmers' bank accounts through online mode.

(b) & (c): No such representations have been received in this Department.

If the farmers get prices better than the support price from other buyers such as traders/millers etc., the farmers are free to sell their produce to them. FCI, State Government and State Government's agencies ensure that the farmers are not compelled to sell their produce below MSP.
