

Government of India
Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
Department of Consumer Affairs

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1812
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13.12.2023

PRICE STABILIZATION FUND

1812. SHRI MUKESH RAJPUT: SHRI P.C. MOHAN: SHRI RAMESH CHANDER KAUSHIK:
SHRI KHAGEN MURMU: SHRI RAJENDRA DHEDYA GAVIT:

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

- (a) the details of the Price Stabilization Fund (PSF) that has been used since it was created in 2014-15, with a focus on the effects it had on inflation for commodities for which a buffer stock has been created;
- (b) the names of the agencies involved in maintaining the stock, including the distribution of money each agency has given to different States and Union Territories;
- (c) the steps taken by the Ministry to make the Price Stabilization Fund more efficient, especially during COVID;
- (d) the number of households which have benefited from this initiative;
- (e) the total amount of pulses that have been distributed thereunder, State-wise; and
- (f) the status of implementation of scheme of hallmarking of gold jewellery and artefacts, in every State and district since its launch in 2020?

ANSWER

उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण राज्य मंत्री
(श्री अश्विनी कुमार चौबे)

THE MINISTER OF STATE
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

(a) & (b) : Price Stabilization Fund (PSF) has been set up in 2014-15 to stabilise the volatility in the prices of certain agri-horticultural commodities, namely, onion, potatoes and pulses to mitigate hardships faced by consumers. The objectives of PSF are (i) to promote direct purchase from farmers/farmers' associations at farm gate/ mandi; (ii) to maintain a strategic buffer stock of that would discourage hoarding and unscrupulous speculation; and (iii) to protect consumers by supplying such commodities at reasonable prices through calibrated release of stock. Under this scheme, dynamic buffer stock of pulses (Tur, Urad, Moong, Masur and Gram) and Onions has been created over the years. The maintenance of buffer stock and calibrated releases from buffer helped in reining price volatility and ensuring availability these food commodities at affordable prices to the consumers. A total of Rs. 27,489 crore of budgetary support has been provided for the PSF since 2014-15 till 2023-24. The funds from PSF scheme have been utilised for providing working capital and other incidental expenses to Central Nodal Agencies and States/UTs for procurement, storage and disposal of the agri-horticultural commodities maintained in the PSF buffer. Central Nodal Agencies for under the PSF are Food Corporation of India (FCI), National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India (NAFED), Small Farmers' Agri-Business Consortium (SFAC), National Cooperative Consumers Federation (NCCF), Metals & Minerals Trading Corporation (MMTC) and State Trading Corporation (STC). Details of funds released under Price Stabilisation Fund to Central Nodal Agencies and States/UTs are given at **Annexure-I**.

(c) to (e) : Pulses from the PSF buffer were utilised to ensure availability of nutritional food to the beneficiaries of Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) and stranded migrant workers during Covid-19 pandemic. In pursuance to the announcement made under PMGKAY Package as part of Economic Response to COVID-19, the Department of Consumer Affairs had provisioned pulses out of the Price Stabilization Fund buffer for distribution @1kg per household per month, free of cost, to 19.4 crore beneficiary Households, initially for three months - April to June, 2020. Thereafter, it was extended for another five months, i.e., July to November, 2020 under which Chana Whole from the PSF buffer was distributed, free of cost, to beneficiary households @1kg per household. Further, under the Atma Nirbhar Bharat (ANB), Chana Whole from the PSF buffer was provided for distribution to stranded migrant workers for a period of two months May and June, 2020, free of cost, @1kg per 1kg per household per month. The state-wise quantities of pulses distributed under PMGKAY and ANB, and number of beneficiary households are given at **Annexure-II**.

(f) : First phase of the mandatory hallmarking was implemented w.e.f. 23 June 2021 in 256 districts for 14, 18 and 22 karats of gold jewellery/artefacts as per Gazette Notification No. CG-DL-E-25062021-227808 dated 23rd June, 2021. Second phase of mandatory hallmarking was implemented w.e.f 01 June 2022 in 288 districts (additional 32 districts) for 14, 18, 20, 22, 23 and 24 karats of gold jewellery/artefacts as per Gazette Notification No. CG-DL-E-04042022-234822 dated 04th April, 2022. Third phase of mandatory hallmarking was implemented w.e.f 06 September 2023 in 343 districts (additional 55 districts) for 14, 18, 20, 22, 23 and 24 karats of gold jewellery/artefacts as per Gazette Notification No. CG-DL-E-06092023-248618 dated 06th September, 2023.

ANNEXURE REFERRED IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) & (b) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1812 FOR 13.12.2023 REGARDING PRICE STABILISATION FUND.

Central Nodal Agencies	Amount (Rs. in crore)
National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India (NAFED)	43,756.45
Small Farmers' Agri-Business Consortium (SFAC)	754.20
Food Corporation of India (FCI)	1,574.28
Metals and Minerals Trading Corporation (MMTC)	2,611.54
State Trading Corporation (STC)	42.81
National Cooperative Consumers Federation (NCCF)	2,299.41
Funds released to states for State-Level PSF	
Andhra Pradesh	50.00
West Bengal	2.50
Telangana	9.15
Odisha	25.00
Tamil Nadu	2.50
Assam	75.00
Nagaland	37.50

ANNEXURE REFERRED IN REPLY TO PARTS (c) To (e) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1812 FOR 13.12.2023 REGARDING PRICE STABILISATION FUND.

Sl. No.	States/Uts	PMGKAY I (Apr – Jun. 2020)		PMGKAY II (Jul – Nov. 2020)		ANB (May & June, 2020)	
		Quantity distributed by States/UTs (in MT)	No. of Beneficiary Household (in nos)	Total Quantity distributed by States/UTs (in MT)	No. of Beneficiary Household (in nos)	Quantity distributed by States/UTs (in MT)	No. of Beneficiary Household (in nos)
1	ANDAMAN & NICOBAR	48.26	16,087	81.40	16,280	8.55	8,554
2	ANDHRA PRADESH	25,894.28	86,31,425	39,350.35	78,70,071	-	-
3	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	529.12	1,76,372	881.87	1,76,373	34.90	34,900
4	ASSAM	17,356.12	57,85,373	28,773.25	57,54,650	788.27	7,88,270
5	BIHAR	43,001.30	1,43,33,767	77,117.14	1,54,23,428	3,386.90	33,86,900
6	CHANDIGARH	172.52	57,506	296.73	59,345	7.06	7,056
7	CHHATTISGARH	15,216.78	50,72,260	25,351.97	50,70,394	173.29	1,73,290
8	DADAR NAGAR HAVELI DAMAN & DIU	195.72	65,239	326.20	65,239	13.05	13,050
9	DELHI	5,173.99	17,24,662	8,766.82	17,53,363	113.33	1,13,332
10	GOA	427.50	1,42,500	711.55	1,42,310	1.60	1,600
11	GUJARAT	19,325.53	64,41,843	30,497.98	60,99,597	21.39	21,392
12	HARYANA	7,283.26	24,27,753	10,995.97	21,99,194	484.35	4,84,350
13	HIMACHAL PRADESH	1,952.38	6,50,794	3,044.92	6,08,985	121.00	1,20,997
14	JAMMU & KASHMIR	4,905.44	16,35,146	8,154.52	16,30,905	82.47	82,467
15	JHARKHAND	17,086.13	56,95,376	28,525.68	57,05,136	1,088.14	10,88,140
16	KARNATAKA	37,692.47	1,25,64,155	60,482.87	1,20,96,575	2,350.05	23,50,053
17	KERALA	10,782.19	35,94,065	18,073.79	36,14,758	306.90	3,06,897
18	LADAKH	87.37	29,123	145.52	29,103	-	-
19	LAKSHADWEEP	15.60	5,200	29.63	5,925	1.91	1,914
20	MADHYA PRADESH	29,098.00	96,99,333	48,805.30	97,61,060	159.33	1,59,330
21	MAHARASHTRA	43,211.21	1,44,03,738	62,148.19	1,24,29,638	1,248.46	12,48,455
22	MANIPUR	1,762.51	5,87,503	2,954.90	5,90,980	80.87	80,872
23	MEGHALAYA	1,264.51	4,21,503	2,107.52	4,21,503	84.30	84,300
24	MIZORAM	346.33	1,15,442	777.03	1,55,405	29.75	29,750
25	NAGALAND	854.80	2,84,933	1,424.66	2,84,932	56.00	56,000
26	ODISHA	28,558.54	95,19,513	44,577.52	89,15,504	15.13	15,130
27	PUDUCHERRY	494.48	1,64,827	793.27	1,58,654	17.61	17,606
28	PUNJAB	10,413.83	34,71,276	17,109.00	34,21,800	1,015.72	10,15,720
29	RAJASTHAN	30,029.78	1,00,09,928	45,423.68	90,84,736	2,002.04	20,02,040
30	SIKKIM	281.57	93,857	457.69	91,537	18.71	18,708
31	TAMIL NADU	33,323.76	1,11,07,920	54,436.00	1,08,87,200	193.00	1,93,000
32	TELANGANA	15,988.18	53,29,393	-	-	34.46	34,463
33	TRIPURA	1,620.29	5,40,097	2,795.74	5,59,148	21.93	21,929
34	UTTAR PRADESH	1,00,226.40	3,34,08,799	1,68,636.60	3,37,27,319	1,060.50	10,60,497
35	UTTARAKHAND	4,034.58	13,44,859	6,591.95	13,18,389	25.60	25,595
36	WEST BENGAL	43,587.00	1,45,29,000	71,818.00	1,43,63,600	2,680.00	26,80,000
	Total	5,52,241.70	18,40,80,568	8,72,465.18	17,44,93,036	17,726.56	1,77,26,557