

(b) The Government does not propose to lift ban imposed by the State Government/ U.T. Administrations on sale on salt other than iodised salt in order to control the problem of Goitre and other Iodine Deficiency Disorders.

Procurement of Paddy in Punjab

940. BABA SUCHA SINGH: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of paddy crop arrived for sale in Punjab Mandis upto 30 November, 1990 this year;

(b) the quantity purchased by F.C.I. Food Deptt. Punjab, Markfed and other Government agencies;

(c) the quantity of paddy which could not be purchased and the reasons therefor; and

(d) the proposals/steps taken to ensure 100 per cent procurement of paddy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI SARWAR HUSSAIN): (a) 77.46 lakh tonnes.

(b)	<i>Procurement Agencies</i>	<i>(As on 30.11.90) Quantity of paddy purchased. (in lakh tonnes)</i>
	F.C.I.	30.28
	State Food Department (FOODSUP)	3.92
	Markfed	5.76
	State Civil Supplies Corporation (PUNSUP)	5.08
	Total	45.04

(c) and (d). Out of the total arrivals of 77.46 lakh tonnes of paddy in Punjab mandis till 30th November, 1990, 45.04 lakh tonnes was purchased by Food Corporation of India, State Government and State procuring agencies under price support scheme and the remaining 32.42 lakh tonnes was purchased by rice millers in open markets. The price support scheme of the Government ensures purchase of all paddy/other foodgrains, of Fair Average Quality (FAQ) and conforming to the specifications prescribed by Government, offered by farmers for sale at the purchase centres/mandis to

procuring agencies on voluntary basis at the minimum support price. There may be, however, cases when paddy is not procured being of below specifications and as such it cannot be laid down that all the 100% of the paddy arriving in mandis will be procured at all times.

Shikshya Karmi

941. SHRI SIVAJI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state: