

The indicative price fixed for the year 1984-85 is Rs. 50/- per quintal.

### Procurement of Rice and Wheat

372. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to lay a statement showing.

(a) the total quantity of paddy/rice procured from farmers/millers in 1983-84;

(b) the total quantity of wheat procured from farmers/millers in 1983-84;

(c) the price paid for a quintal of paddy rice/wheat to the farmers/millers in 1983-84;

(d) the overheads incurred for one quintal paddy/rice/wheat in procurement and storage;

(e) issue price of rice/wheat to the consumers in 1983-84; and

(f) the steps taken by Food Corporation of India to reduce the overheads ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : (a) During 1983-84 kharif marketing season, about 2.70 million tonnes of paddy was purchased from the farmers about 6.02 million tonnes of rice procured from the millers.

(b) During 1983-84 rabi marketing season, about 8.29 million tonnes of wheat was procured.

(c) For 1983-84 kharif and rabi marketing seasons, paddy was purchased at support price of Rs. 132.00, Rs. 136.00 and Rs. 140.00 per quintal for common, fine and superfine varieties respectively. The price of rice purchased under levy from millers was fixed on the basis of the support prices for paddy and incidental charges of conversion as relevant to each State. The procurement price of wheat was Rs. 151.60 per quintal for the year 1983-84.

(d) The expenditure incurred on procurement and storage of paddy, rice and wheat during the year 1983-84 are as under :-

	(Rate Rs. per quintal)		
	Paddy	Rice	Wheat
Procurement Expenses	24.17	11.11	24.17
Handling expenses on distribution (Includes storage of Rs 3.06)	—	46.87	46.87

(e) Central issue prices of rice and wheat during the relevant period were as follows :

RICE	(Rs. per quintal)	
	WITH EFFECT FROM 1.10.1982	16.1.1984
Common	188.00	208.00
Fine	200.00	220.00
Super-fine	215.00	235.00

WHEAT	WITH EFFECT FROM	
	1.8.1982	15.4.1983
	160.00	172.00
	(For PDS)	(For PDS)

Central Government supplies rice and wheat to the State Governments at the above rates. The State Governments fix the consumer prices after adding their incidental costs.

(f) The Food Corporation of India is making constant endeavour to reduce the cost of storage and distribution by optimisation of the use of resources through more efficient movement, better storage capacity utilisation, reduction of storage and transit shortages by introducing machine stitching of bags etc.

### Population Covered by TV in Kerala

374. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :