

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2964
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20TH DECEMBER, 2023**

GAP BETWEEN PRODUCTION AND PROCUREMENT OF FOODGRAINS

†2964. SHRI HAJI FAZLUR REHMAN:

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

- (a) whether there is a huge gap between production and procurement of foodgrains in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the steps being taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to bridge this gap; and
- (d) the total quantity of wheat and rice procured during the last four years and the current year?

A N S W E R

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI)**

(a) to (d): Procurement in a State depends not only upon production but also upon other factors like marketable surplus, Minimum Support Price (MSP), prevailing market rate, demand & supply situation and participation of private traders etc.

The estimate for procurement of paddy and wheat is finalized by the Government of India in consultation with State Governments and Food Corporation of India (FCI), before the commencement of each marketing season based upon estimated production, marketable surplus and agricultural crop pattern.

The Production and procurement of Wheat & Paddy (in terms of rice) in the country during last four years and the current year is as below: -

Wheat:

RMS	Production (in LMT)	Procurement (in LMT)
2019-20	1035.96	341.32
2020-21	1078.61	389.92
2021-22	1095.86	433.44
2022-23	1077.42	187.92
2023-24	1105.54	262.02

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Paddy (In terms of Rice):

KMS	Production (in LMT)	Procurement (in LMT)
2019-20	1188.70	518.26
2020-21	1243.68	602.45
2021-22	1294.71	575.88
2022-23	1357.55	568.66
2023-24 (Kharif crop only)	1063.13	224.75 (up to 11.12.2023)

The following steps are taken to increase ease of procurement from farmers in the country:

(i) Procurement centres are opened by respective State Government Agencies/ FCI taking into account the estimated production, marketable surplus, convenience of farmers and availability of other logistics / infrastructure such as storage and transportation etc. Large number of temporary purchase centres in addition to the existing Mandis and depots/godowns have also been established at key points for the convenience of the farmers.

(ii) In orders to widen out reach of MSP operations for Paddy and Wheat, Government of India has made a provision for engagement of Co-operative societies / Self Help Groups/ Panchayats / Primary Agriculture Cooperative Societies (PACS) by the State procuring agencies so that maximum farmers can avail the benefit of Price Support operations.

(iii) Farmers are made aware of the quality specifications and purchase system etc. to facilitate them to bring their produce conforming to the specifications. Payment of MSP is being made directly into farmers' bank accounts.

(iv) FCI and all the procuring States have developed their own Online Procurement System to ensure transparency and convenience to the farmers through proper registration and monitoring of actual procurement.

(v) Through e-procurement module deployed by procuring agencies, farmers get latest/updated information regarding declared MSP, nearest purchase centre, date on which the farmer has to bring his produce to the purchase centre etc. This facilitates delivery of stock by the farmers conveniently in the mandi/purchase centers.
