

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:764
ANSWERED ON:02.03.2010
DECLINE IN PROCUREMENT OF RICE AND WHEAT
Joshi Shri Mahesh

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been a drastic decline in procurement of rice and wheat by the Food Corporation of India during the current year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether multinational companies are also procuring rice and wheat in the country;
- (d) if so, whether there is any ban/restriction on the quality to be procured by the multinational companies;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) if not, whether the Government proposes to take such steps in future; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a)&(b): No, Madam. The details of procurement of wheat and rice in the Central Pool during the last three Kharif and Rabi Marketing Seasons are as under:-

(In lakh tonnes)

Marketing Season	Wheat	Rice
------------------	-------	------

2006-07	92.26	251.07
---------	-------	--------

2007-08	111.28	287.36
---------	--------	--------

2008-09	226.89	336.85
---------	--------	--------

2009-10	253.82	228.51#
---------	--------	---------

As on 25.2.2010

(c),(d)&(e): As per the existing policy for foodgrains procurement, the farmers are free to sell their produce, to Government agencies at the MSP or in the open market to private trade depending upon the prevailing open market price, as is advantageous to them.

(f): No, Madam.

(g): Does not arise.