

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:335
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2010
DECLINE IN PROCUREMENT OF FOODGRAINS
Patel Shri Deoraj Singh;Rajesh Shri M. B.

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

- (a) whether there has been a decline in the procurement of foodgrains by Government agencies during the last two years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor indicating the quantum procured during the said period, State-wise;
- (c) the steps taken to increase procurement and for the safe storage of foodgrains;
- (d) whether there is any linkage between procurement, allocation and offtake of foodgrains; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a),(b),(c),(d) &(e) : A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF STARRED QUESTION NO.335 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 17.08.2010 IN THE LOK SABHA

(a) No Madam.

The procurement of foodgrains(wheat, rice & coarse grains), by FCI & State Government agencies for the central pool, during the last two crop years has been highest since 1999-00. The procurement was 60.44 million tonnes in 2008-09 and 53.30 million tonnes in crop year 2009-10 upto August 12,2010.

(b). Does not arise.

(c). Remunerative prices to farmer, greater involvement of Cooperative Societies/Self Help Groups in procurement and opening up of sufficient number of procurement centers in the procuring Districts have helped increase outreach and procurement. For safe storage of foodgrains, measures have been initiated to augment storage capacity under a guarantee scheme through private entrepreneurs. The guarantee period, under the scheme, has been extended from 7 to 10 years.

(d) & (e). The allocation of food grains is made @ 35 kg per month per family for identified number of BPL families (including AAY). Allocation to APL families is made depending upon the food grains stocks in the Central Pool. Higher procurement enables more allocations to APL families and also releases under Open Market Sale Scheme, as compared to a year of low procurement. Offtake of foodgrains depends on availability and prices.