

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1590
ANSWERED ON:03.08.2010
SHORTAGE OF PROCUREMENT CENTRES
Panda Shri Baijayant;Pradhan Shri Nityananda

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

- (a) whether the farmers in the country, particularly in the backward, underdeveloped areas are not able to get remunerative price for their produce despite an increase in production due to shortage of procurement centres;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken to open adequate number of procurement centres in such areas of the country including Orissa, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and North Eastern States?

Answer

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

- (a) and (b): No, Madam. Under the existing policy, procurement of foodgrains is open ended under which FCI and State Agencies procure all the foodgrains conforming to the prescribed specifications at the Minimum Support Price (MSP) as offered by farmers.
- (c): State Governments through its agencies procuring on behalf of FCI for Central Pool & FCI open procurement centres in accordance with expected procurement. Government of India does review with the State Governments & FCI at the beginning of procurement season to impress upon the need to open adequate number of procurement centres.