

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2299
ANSWERED ON:21.07.2009
TARGETS FOR PROCUREMENT
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

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

- (a) whether the targets fixed for procurement of foodgrains during 2008-09 have been achieved;
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating the targets fixed and achieved during the said period, State-wise;
- (c) if not, whether any strategy has been chalked out to produce and procure adequate quantum of foodgrains during the ensuing year to meet the domestic demand;
- (d) if so, the details of estimated demand and the targeted procurement of foodgrains during 2009-10; and
- (e) the steps taken to achieve the said targets?

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)&(b): The procurement of foodgrains under Minimum Support Price (MSP) operations is open ended and no targets are fixed. Wheat and rice offered by farmers for purchase at MSP fixed by the Government is purchased by Food Corporation of India and State Agencies. However, estimates are drawn in the meetings of State Food Secretaries before commencement of each Rabi and Kharif Marketing Season. The estimated and actual procurement of wheat and rice during 2008-09 is at Annexure I.

(c): Does not arise.

(d): The estimated demand of wheat and rice for Targeted Public Distribution System and other welfare schemes during 2009-10 is 214.77 lakh tonnes and 270.52 lakh tonnes respectively. Procurement of wheat in Rabi Marketing Season 2009-10 was estimated at 244.2 lakh tonnes. Estimates for procurement of rice in Kharif Marketing Season 2009-10 will be finalized in a meeting with State Food Secretaries before the commencement of the season on 1.10. 2009.

(e): The steps taken to increase availability of foodgrains in 2009-10 are at Annexure-II.