

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:309
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2011
PAYMENTS FOR WHEAT PROCUREMENT
Kumar Shri Shailendra

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

- (a) the details of the wheat procured in the country during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (b) the reasons for delay in making payment to the farmers on account of wheat procurement;
- (c) whether there is any co-ordination between the Food Corporation of India (FCI) and the States regarding payment for procurement and maintenance of foodgrain stocks; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken for safe and proper storage of foodgrains and to ensure timely payment of procurement price to the farmers?

Answer

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

- (a): The details of the wheat procured in the country during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise, are at Annexure-I.
- (b): There are no reports of delayed payments to the farmers on account of wheat procurement.
- (c) & (d): Yes, Madam. Before start of every Rabi Marketing Season (RMS), a meeting of Food Secretaries of wheat procuring States and Food Corporation of India (FCI) officials is held in the Department to coordinate arrangements for wheat procurement. Based on expected production, FCI and State agencies in consultation with State Governments, set up requisite number of purchase centres at various key points including Mandis. Payments for stocks purchased are made to State agencies within reasonable period of time by FCI. Steps taken by FCI for safe and proper storage of food-grains are at Annexure-II.