

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4586
ANSWERED ON:30.08.2011
PROCUREMENT OF FOODGRAINS
Choudhry Smt. Shruti;Ray Shri Rudramadhab

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

- (a) whether there is any proposal to increase the procurement of foodgrains to meet the increasing demand in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken thereon indicating the demand and procurement of foodgrains during each of the last three years and the current year alongwith the estimated procurement during the ensuing season;
- (c) the likely impact of increased procurement on the food subsidy bill; and
- (d) the steps taken to ensure that only good quality foodgrains reach the consumers?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): The National Food Security Act is in the process of being finalized. The likely requirement of foodgrains to implement the provisions of the Act will be firmed up when the Act is finalized. The Government is taking necessary measures to enhance foodgrain procurement in view of the likely increase in the requirement of foodgrains under the National Food Security Act. Details of demand and procurement of foodgrains during last three years and current year is at Annexure-I, II & III. The estimate of rice procurement during KMS 2011-12 is yet to be firmed up.

(c): It is expected that with the increase in procurement level food subsidy bill will also correspondingly increase.

(d) Food Corporation of India and other agencies involved in procurement of foodgrains have standing instructions to procure only those foodgrains which conform to the prescribed Fair and Average Quality (FAQ) norms.