

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5392  
ANSWERED ON:06.09.2011  
FOODGRAIN PROCUREMENT POLICY  
Nagar Shri Surendra Singh

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to formulate a uniform policy for the procurement of grains;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the extent to which farmers are likely to benefit from the said policy?

**Answer**

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

(a), (b) & (c) : As per existing policy, Government procures foodgrains (wheat, rice and coarse cereals) conforming to uniform specifications at Minimum Support Price (MSP) from the farmers through Food Corporation of India (FCI) and States/State agencies for the Central Pool. Procurement of foodgrains is open ended wherein all the foodgrains offered by farmers including small and marginal farmers at MSP and conforming to prescribed specifications are procured. Farmers have a choice to sell it to FCI/State Agencies at MSP or to sell in the open market, as is advantageous to them. This policy is uniformly applicable throughout the country. There is no proposal to change the existing procurement policy.