

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5483
ANSWERED ON:06.09.2011
MONITORING OF PROCUREMENT
Abdulrahman Shri ;Dhruvanarayana Shri R. ;Singh Shri Radhey Mohan

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

- (a) whether the response of the States to the lifting of foodgrains including wheat offered under the Open Market Sales Scheme (OMSS) has been poor;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor alongwith the steps taken to mobilize the States for speedy off-take of the said foodgrains;
- (c) whether the price of foodgrains particularly wheat, offered by the Government under OMSS is higher than the open market;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to constitute a high powered task force to monitor procurement, storage and management of foodgrains; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a)&(b): Government of India has allocated 10 Lakh tonnes of wheat and 10 Lakh tonnes of rice to States /Union Territories

(UTs) for distribution to retail consumers under Open Market Sale Scheme (Domestic)[OMSS(D)] during the year 2011

(from 1st January 2011 to 30th September, 2011). Against this allocation 0.31 lakh tonnes of wheat and 0.09 lakh tonnes of rice have been lifted by State/UT Governments upto 16.8.2011. Poor lifting of foodgrains under OMSS (D) is due to additional allocation of 50 lakh tonnes of foodgrains for Below Poverty Line (BPL) families at BPL rates and 50 lakh tonnes of foodgrains for Above Poverty Line (APL) families at APL rates, over and above normal Public Distribution System (PDS) allocation, during the year 2011-12. Chief Ministers of States and Administrators of UTs have been requested to maximize the lifting of foodgrains under OMSS (D).

(c)&(d): The comparison chart of open market wholesale price and OMSS(D) price of wheat and rice for selected centers is as under

As on 16.8.2011

(in Rs/ Quintal)

Whole sale price		OMSS (D) price	
Wheat	Rice	Wheat	Rice
Delhi	1200 1950	1111.54	Raw Rice Grade A-1585.84
Mumbai	1675 1725	1208.33	

Chennai 2000 1900 1249.17

Ranchi 1550 2367 1203.26

(Source- Consumer Affairs web- site)

It may be seen that OMSS (D) price of wheat and rice is not higher than the open market prices.

(e)&(f): Yes Madam, a committee consisting of Officers of Department of Food and Public Distribution and Food Corporation of India, has been constituted for carrying out inspection of Food Storage Depots, CAP Complexes, Procurement Centers of FCI and State Agencies during the period September, 2011 to November, 2011