

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:467
ANSWERED ON:06.09.2011
REMUNERATIVE PRICE FOR FARMERS
Singh Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad

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

- (a) the total quantum of wheat, paddy, rice and other agriculture produce procured by the Food Corporation of India alongwith the number of farmers benefited therefrom during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (b) the details of arrangements made for the procurement and the number of procurement centres opened by FCI during the said period, State-wise;
- (c) whether there are reports that the farmers in some States including Bihar failed to get remunerative or the Minimum Support Price (MSP) fixed for the produce;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto alongwith the corrective steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard; and
- (e) the details of the mechanism put in place in various States including Bihar to ensure remunerative price/MSP to the farmers?

Answer

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

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF THE STARRED QUESTION NO.467 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 6.9.2011 IN THE LOK SABHA.

- (a): The total quantum of wheat, Paddy and rice procured by the Food Corporation of India (FCI) during each of the last three years and the current year, state wise is given at Annexure-I, II and III. No other product is procured by FCI . However, no separate data is maintained on the number of farmers benefitting from procurement by FCI.
- (b): Before the onset of every Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) and Rabi Marketing Season (RMS), detailed instructions covering all the arrangements to be made for procurement are issued to the Field offices. In collaboration with State Government/agencies, sufficient number of procurement centres are opened and advance arrangement of gunny bags and funds are made. The number of procurement centres opened by FCI and State Agencies during the said period, State-wise is given at Annexure-IV and V.
- (c): As per Government of India policy, whatever produce comes to the Government purchase centre conforming to Fair and Average Quality (FAQ) specification, is purchased by Government Agencies at Minimum Support Price (MSP). FCI has not received any report that farmers in some States failed to get Minimum Support Price fixed for Wheat and Paddy conforming to prescribed FAQ specification.
- (d): Does not arise.
- (e): As per existing policy of procurement of foodgrains, MSP operations for paddy, coarse grains and wheat are extended to the farmers through FCI and State Agencies. In order to ensure that the farmers get remunerative MSP for Wheat and paddy, the requisite steps taken are at Annexure-VI.