

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3298

ANSWERED ON:23.08.2011

PROCUREMENT OF FOODGRAINS

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

- (a) whether the Government has worked out any estimates regarding the procurement of foodgrains during the ensuing season;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the target fixed and achieved for procurement of foodgrains during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Food Corporation of India (FCI) has paid the procurement price directly to the farmers in all the States;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (e) the total quantum of foodgrains lifted from the Central pool under various heads during the said period, head-wise and scheme-wise?

Answer

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

(a): During the State Food Secretaries' meeting held on 7th Feb, 2011, before Rabi Marketing Season (RMS) 2011-12, an estimate of 262.75 lakh tonnes of wheat procurement was made. The rice procurement estimates for Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2011-12 starting from 1st October, 2011 are being firmed up.

(b): The estimates of procurement of wheat and rice made before the onset of concerned Rabi/Kharif Marketing Season and the actual procurement of wheat and rice for the last three years and current year (as on 16.08.2011), State-wise is given at Annexure I & II respectively.

(c) & (d) : Yes, Madam. In order to ensure that the farmers get Minimum Support Price (MSP) for their produce, payment is made directly by FCI to the farmers. However, in some of the States where the procurement is made through Arahatiyas, the payment to the farmers is routed through Arahatiyas.

(e): The quantity of foodgrains distributed from the Central Pool under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and Other Welfare Schemes (OWS) from 2008-09 to 2011-12 (upto June, 2011) is at Annexure-III & IV respectively.