

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:117  
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2012  
PROCUREMENT OF FOODGRAINS  
Karwariya Shri Kapil Muni

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

- (a) the total quantum of foodgrains procured during the current year alongwith the increase over the previous year, Statewise;
- (b) whether the Government had involved other agencies apart from the Food Corporation of India (FCI) to undertake procurement during the last one year and the current year;
- (c) if so, whether the said agencies were able to meet the targets fixed for procurement during the said period;
- (d) if so, the details thereof indicating the targets fixed and achieved regarding foodgrains to be procured by the said agencies and the FCI during the said period, State-wise and grain-wise; and
- (e) the steps taken to improve procurement and open more procurement centres during the ensuing season?

**Answer**

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

(a): The total quantum of foodgrains procured during the current year along-with the increase over the previous year, State-wise is given in Annexure I & II.

(b) Yes Madam. Other than FCI, State Governments engage agencies at their level to undertake procurement of foodgrains.

(c & d) : As per the existing procurement policy, the Central Government extends price support for paddy & wheat through the Food Corporation of India(FCI) and State Governments/State agencies through an open ended process. All the foodgrains conforming to the prescribed specifications offered for sale by farmers at specified procurement centres are bought by the procurement agencies at Minimum Support Price(MSP). The farmers have the option to sell their produce to FCI/State agencies at Minimum Support Price(MSP) or in the open market whatever is advantageous to them.

However, at the start of every marketing season, a meeting of food secretaries is convened and state-wise estimates of expected quantities of foodgrains to be procured are prepared.

Rice and wheat procurement estimate for last one year and current year along-with the actual procurement State-wise are given at Annex. III & IV.

(e) Steps taken to improve procurement and open more procurement centers during the ensuing season are at Annexure V.