

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1103

ANSWERED ON:20.03.2012

LOWER PROCUREMENT OF FOODGRAINS

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

- (a) whether there is a gap in the production and procurement of foodgrains in the country during the last three years and the current year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor alongwith the steps taken to bridge this gap indicating the number of procurement centres opened and the quantum of these commodities procured during the said period, State-wise;
- (c) whether the said quantity is adequate to meet the requirements during the ensuing year;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the remedial steps taken in this regard;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to procure more coarse grains; 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): The production and procurement of foodgrains in the country during the last 3 years and current year is as under:-

(In lakh tonnes)

Marketing Year WHEAT

Production Procurement Procurement as
percentage of Production

2008-09 806.8 226.89 31.46%

2009-10 808 253.82 27.86%

2010-11 868.74 225.14 32.67%

2011-12 883.14 283.35 32.08%

(In lakh tonnes)

Marketing Year RICE

Production Procurement Procurement as
percentage of production

2008-09 991.80 341.04 34.39%

2009-10 890.90 320.34 35.96%

2010-11	959.80	341.98	35.63%
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2011-12#	1027.44	276.83	25.39%
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as on 16.3.2012

It may be seen that the procurement as a percentage of production has remained stable in spite of substantial increase in production of both wheat and rice. Details of State wise procurement centers opened and overall procurement is at Annexure-I, II, III and IV.

(c)&(d): Yes Madam, quantum of foodgrains procured is sufficient to meet Targeted Public Distribution System requirement for ensuing year. As on 1.3.2012, 212.55 lakh tonnes of wheat & 331.78 lakh tonnes of rice was available in the Central Pool. There has also been record procurement of wheat & rice during Rabi & Kharif Marketing Seasons 2009-10, 2010-11 & 2011-12. Procurement of wheat & rice during last three years is as follows:-

Marketing Year Procurement

	Wheat	Rice
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2008-09	226.89	341.04
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2009-10	253.81	320.34
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2010-11	225.14	341.99
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2011-12	283.35	276.83
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(as on 16.3.12)

(e)&(f): As per existing policy of Government, coarse grains are procured by State Government and their agencies. State Government and their agencies purchase all the coarse grains, conforming to the prescribed specifications, offered for sale by the farmers at specified Centers at the MSP. The farmers have the option to sell their produce to State Agencies at MSP or in open market, as is advantageous to them.