

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1452
ANSWERED ON:21.08.2012
LOWER PROCUREMENT OF FOODGRAINS
Ganpatrao Shri Jadhav Prataprao;Singh Shri Ijyraj

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

- (a) whether the Government is able to procure only a small quantity of foodgrains directly from the farmers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor indicating the total production of foodgrains in the country during the last three years and the quantum of foodgrains out of the above which the Government has failed to procure; and
- (c) the remedial steps taken in this regard?

Answer

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

(a): No Madam. As per the existing procurement policy, the Central Government extends price support to paddy and wheat through the FCI and State Agencies. All the foodgrains conforming to the prescribed specifications offered for sale at specified centers are bought by the public procurement agencies at the Minimum Support Price (MSP). The farmers have the option to sell their produce to FCI/State Agencies at the MSP or in the open market as is advantageous to them.

(b) & (c): The total production and procurement of foodgrains in the country during the last three years is given below:-

Sl.No. Crop Year Total Production Total Procurement
(in lakh tonnes) (in lakh tonnes)

Rice Wheat Rice Wheat

1. 2009-10 890.93 808.00 320.34 225.14

2. 2010-11 959.80 868.74 341.98 283.35

3. 2011-12 1034.06 902.32 347.96 381.48
As on As on
14.08.2012 14.08.2012

It can be seen that the procurement of foodgrains in absolute terms as well as in proportion to production is increasing over the years. Steps taken to increase procurement of foodgrains is at Annexure-I.