

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3889
ANSWERED ON:04.09.2012
SHORTAGE OF PROCUREMENT CENTRES
Jakhar Shri Badri Ram

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

- (a) whether the farmers in the country particularly from the backward underdeveloped areas are unable to get remunerative price for their produce despite the rise in production due to the shortage of procurement centres;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the number of procurement centres proposed to be set up in the country including Rajasthan during the ensuing season along with the action taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): No Madam. Before the start of every marketing season, Department of Food & Public Distribution convenes a meeting of State Food Secretaries, Food Corporation of India and other stake holders to prepare a detailed action plan for making arrangements of procurement in the ensuing marketing season. Details of number of procurement centres to be opened and availability of packaging material and storage space etc. are reviewed in the said meeting. Such review meeting for ensuing KMS 2012-13 was held on 01.08.2012. Review is also made at the level of Food Corporation of India and State Governments from time to time to coordinate procurement arrangements including agency-wise procurement centres to be opened and the requirement of additional procurement centres, if any, and additional procurement centres as required are opened.

(c) & (d): During the current Kharif Marketing Season 2011-12, 25865 procurement centres were opened for paddy procurement while during the current Rabi Marketing Season(RMS) 2012-13, 16232 procurement centres were opened for wheat procurement including 337 procurement centres in Rajasthan .