

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1187
ANSWERED ON:05.03.2013
FOODGRAIN OFFTAKE BY FCI
Scindia Smt. Yashodhara Rajee

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

- (a) the details of wheat and rice lifted by the Food Corporation of India (FCI) from various States of the country during the first seven months of 2012-13, Statewise;
- (b) the quantum of foodgrains yet to be lifted, state-wise;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to give more time to the States for lifting these foodgrains; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) Food Corporation of India (FCI) procures foodgrains directly from the farmers through the State Agencies in different States under Minimum Support Price (MSP) operations. There is no concept of lifting of foodgrains by FCI from the States. However, the State Government lifts foodgrains from FCI/Central Pool stocks for meeting their Public Distribution System (PDS)/ Other Welfare Schemes (OWS) requirements.

Procurement of wheat and rice takes place during the corresponding Marketing Season – i.e Rabi Marketing Season (RMS) (April-March) and Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) (October- September). The quantity of rice procured state-wise in the current KMS from 1st October, 2012 to 28th February, 2013 is given at Annexure-I. The quantity of wheat procured, state-wise, during RMS 2012-13 is given at Annexure-II. Since the procurement of foodgrains is open ended, there is no upper limit on the amount to be procured. However, before the commencement of every marketing season, meetings are held with the Food Secretaries of the concerned States, and estimates of the total procurement is prepared. As per these estimates, 318 lakh tons of wheat was estimated to be procured during RMS 2012-13, against which 381.48 lakh tons of wheat has been procured. Against an estimate of 401.31 lakh tons of rice during KMS 2012-13, 272.32 lakh tons of rice has been procured upto 28.02.2013.

(c) & (d) Since the current KMS will continue upto September, 2013 the question of giving additional time to the States for procurement of rice does not arise, as of now. Procurement of wheat is concentrated in the first four months of the RMS and therefore the issue of extension is not relevant.