

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5607
ANSWERED ON:30.04.2013
PROCUREMENT OF WHEAT
Saroj Shri Tufani

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

- (a) whether the Government has set any target for procurement of wheat in the current season;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the quantum of wheat in tonnes procured by the Government in the financial year 2012-13;
- (d) whether the Government has exported some wheat out of the said procurement and if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the quantum of wheat from the last financial year lying in the godowns of FCI as on date; and
- (f) the arrangement made/being made by the Government for safe storage of the wheat to be procured during the ensuing season?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): No, Madam. The procurement of foodgrains being open ended, no targets are set for procurement. However, estimates for procurement of wheat for the Central Pool are made for Rabi season in consultation with the wheat-producing States based on the expected production of wheat in the concerned crop year. Estimate of procurement for RMS 2013-14 is 441.21 lakh tons based on the expected production of wheat and inputs given by the States.

(c): A quantity of 381.48 lakh tons of wheat was procured in the Rabi Marketing Season (RMS) 2012-13.

(d): In view of record production and procurement of foodgrains in the Central Pool stocks and to overcome the temporary constraints of storage space Government on 03.07.2012 decided to allow export of 20 lakh tons of wheat from Central pool stocks. Subsequently on 26.12.2012, Government approved export of an additional quantity of 25 lakh tons of wheat from Central Pool stocks. A quantity of 29.23 lakh tons of wheat has been exported by 31.03.2013 against these permissions. The Government has also approved sale upto 50 lakh tons of wheat for export purposes by private exports from the FCI Stocks of Rabi Marketing Season (RMS) 2011-12 in Punjab and Haryana upto 30.06.2013.

(e): As on 01.04.2013, a quantity of 242.07 lakh tons wheat is lying in Central Pool.

(f): Steps taken by FCI for safe storage of foodgrains is given at Annexure.