

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5696
ANSWERED ON:30.04.2013
PROCUREMENT OF PADDY
Naranbhai Shri Kachhadia

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

- (a) whether the Food Corporation of India (FCI) and NAFED procure paddy in adequate quantity from farmers in the country;
- (b) if so, the details of the paddy procured by the FCI and NAFED during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (c) whether the States have such a mechanism through which paddy is being procured from the farmers at minimum support price; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the manner in which the adjustment is made between the Union Government and the State Governments?

Answer

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

- (a):Yes, Madam. Food Corporation of India (FCI) procures paddy directly from the farmers in various States, but NAFED usually procures paddy on behalf of the State Governments.
- (b):The details of paddy procured by FCI/State Agencies and NAFED are at Annexure-I and II respectively.
- (c) & (d): Yes, Madam. The FCI and State Governments/its agencies have made sufficient arrangements to procure paddy from the farmers at Minimum Support Price (MSP) which include the following:-
 1. Opening of sufficient Procurement Centres for purchase of paddy.
 2. Accepting Custom Milled Rice (CMR) from the State Agencies and making timely payment.
 3. Proper liaison with State Government/agencies is maintained at District/Regional level and all bottlenecks, if any, are sorted out by rendering necessary assistance by FCI.
 4. In Decentralised States, the State Governments are primarily responsible for procurement of foodgrains. But under specific request from State Government, FCI supplement the procurement operations apart from providing technical expertise wherever required.