

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1308

ANSWERED ON:13.08.2013

PROCUREMENT SYSTEM

Bishnoi Shri Kuldeep;Patel Shri Devji;Vijayan Shri A.K.S.

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

- (a) the details of wheat, rice and paddy procured during 2012-13;
- (b) whether the farmers had to face hardships and resort to distress sale of their produce due to lack of proper procurement facilities;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (d) the steps taken to provide proper procurement facilities to farmers to mitigate their hardships and check distress sale; and
- (e) if so, the details and the outcome thereof?

Answer

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

(a): The wheat, rice and paddy procured in central pool during RMS and KMS 2012-13 is as under:

Fig.in LMT		
Wheat	Rice#	Paddy
(RMS 12-13)	(KMS 12-13)	(KMS 12-13)

381.48	338.84##	387.35
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#Rice includes actual Levy rice receipt and
paddy procured in terms of rice.
As on 07.08.13

(b) &(c): No, Madam. No such report has been received by Government.

(d) &(e): Steps taken to provide procurement facilities to farmers include following:

(i) Wide publicity of the specifications such as acceptable moisture contents, foreign matters etc. are given so that farmers may bring their produce accordingly bring their produce at purchase centres. Handbills / pamphlets are also distributed to farmers for their awareness.

(ii) At purchase centres/mandis necessary facility for cleaning and weighment are provided, arrangement of moisture meters and gunnies are also made.

(iii) In States like MP, where the farmers and cooperative societies are registered, the information about date and time for bringing the produce at the centre are given through SMS.

(iv) Besides regulated mandis, temporary procurement centres are also opened to facilitate easy approach of farmers to MSP operations.

(v) It is ensured that payment is made to the farmers within 48 hours of sale of their produce.

(vi) In order to ensure MSP to farmers, payment only through cheques / electronic mode is being enforced.

(vii) The purchase centres are kept operational upto the last date of the procurement season.

(viii) Government ensures that there should not be any fund crisis for the open ended procurement.