

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1362
ANSWERED ON:13.08.2013
PROCUREMENT CENTRES FOR PADDY
Sainuji Shri Kowase Marotrao

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

- (a) the details of paddy procurement centres opened by the Food Corporation of India (FCI), particularly in backward and tribal areas in the country, including Maharashtra during the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to open more such centres in the country including Maharashtra during the ensuing procurement season to ensure proper procurement and check distress sale of paddy; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a): The purchase centres are opened in consultation with State Government at key potential points including tribal areas. There is no specific policy on bifurcation of procurement centres for backward/ tribal and non tribal area. Statement showing State wise no. of procurement centre operated for last three years and the current year, State-wise is at Annexure-I.

(b) & (c): The number of procurement centres may be increased during the ensuing procurement season depending upon the requirement as assessed by the State Government. Last year around 29000 paddy purchase centres were opened and for ensuring KMS 2013-14 over 35000 paddy purchase centres are proposed to be operated in the country. State wise No. of Procurement Centres to be opened during KMS 2013-14 is enclosed as Annexure-II.