

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4847  
ANSWERED ON:12.08.2014  
PROCUREMENT OF FOODGRAINS  
Mahtab Shri Bhartruhari

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

- (a) the details of the targets fixed and achieved for procurement of foodgrains during each of the last three years and the current year along with the quantum of foodgrains procured by the private traders during the said period, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to procure foodgrains at market rates directly from the farmers for the Public Distribution System (PDS) and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government had prepared any policy/action plan for buying foodgrains for the PDS at market rates in order to meet the shortfall and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the other steps taken to ensure remunerative price to the farmers for their produce?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB PATIL DANVE)

- (a): Statement showing State-wise targeted and actual procurement of wheat and rice during the last three year and the current year along with the quantum procured by Food Corporation of India (FCI) is at Annexure-I and II. Government does not maintain data on procurement made by private traders.
- (b): No, Madam.
- (c): No, Madam. There are adequate stocks available in the Central Pool to meet requirements of Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), Other welfare Scheme (OWS) and National Food Security Act (NFSA).
- (d): In order to ensure that the farmers get remunerative prices/MSP for Wheat and paddy, following mechanism have been put in place:
- i. Keeping in view the procurement potential areas, procurement centres for MSP operations are opened by Govt agencies, both FCI and state Govt, after mutual consultations.
  - ii. Farmers are made aware of the MSP operations by way of advertisements like displaying banners, pamphlets, announcement for MSP and specification in print and electronic media.
  - iii. Payment for the wheat and paddy procured from farmers is either made directly to the farmers or through arthias/co-operative societies as per prevailing system of the State. Payment to farmers are also made through A/c payee cheque/electronic mode. Even in respect of paddy purchased by millers, GOI has already advised state Govt to ensure payment to farmers by millers/Pvt traders through A/c payee cheque so that trail of payment can be made while issuing MSP certificate to millers for delivery of levy rice to State Govt/FCI.
  - iv. State Governments are encouraged to undertake decentralise procurement, so as to enhance the procurement of food grains.
  - v. MSP has been enhanced to encourage delivery of foodgrains into central pool purchase, apart from declaring bonus over and above the MSP.