

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION**  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**QUESTION NO 12.11.2010**  
**ANSWERED ON**  
**STORAGE FACILITY FOR FOODGRAINS .**

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Shri Shyamal Chakraborty

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

- (a) whether Government is expecting bumper harvest of Kharif crop;
- (b) how is Government planning to manage the forthcoming procurement season;
- (c) whether it is a fact that FCI godowns are full;
- (d) whether it is also a fact that building of new storage capacity would take a couple of more years to ease the storage shortage; and
- (e) how is Government going to protect farmers so that there is no fall in prices of their produce?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE  
MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

(PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a) : As per first Advance Estimates of Department of Agriculture & Cooperation (Kharif only) released on 23.9.2010 for 2010-11, production of Kharif rice is estimated at 80.41 million tons and Kharif coarse cereals is estimated at 28.23 million tons, as compared to 75.90 million tons and 23.63 million tons, respectively, in Kharif 2009-10.

(b) : Government of India has already fixed the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for paddy and coarsegrains to be procured during Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2010-11. FCI and State agencies have been sensitized to open sufficient number of procurement centres and to make adequate arrangements of gunny bags, funds and storage space to undertake procurement of rice and coarsegrains during KMS 2010-11.

(c): Storage capacity available with FCI is presently being utilized to the maximum possible extent.

(d) Yes, Sir

(e) In order to protect farmers against distress sale, FCI and State agencies will take up procurement of all paddy and coarsegrains conforming to applicable quality specifications to be offered by the farmers, at the MSPs.