

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 301
TO BE ANSWERED ON 4th FEBRUARY, 2020**

PROCUREMENT OF WHEAT AND PADDY

†301. SHRI OMPRAKASH BHUPALSINH ALIAS PAWAN RAJENIMBALKAR:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the procurement of wheat and paddy in various States during the last one year and the current procurement season, State-wise including Maharashtra;**
- (b) whether complaints have been received regarding the exploitation of farmers by the middleman during the procurement of wheat and paddy in various States;**
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the corrective steps taken in this regard;**
- (d) whether complaints have been received regarding the selling of crops by farmers at throw away prices which are below the minimum support price in view of the irregularities in the procurement of foodgrains; and**
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to address this problem, State-wise?**

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

(SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB DADARAO)

(a): State wise details of procurement of paddy and wheat in various states including Maharashtra during last one year and the current procurement season is at Annexure.

(b) to (e): During 2018-19 and upto December 2019, a complaint dated 12.05.2019 was received in Food Corporation of India (FCI) wherein wheat was reportedly sold below MSP at Pahari Mandi in Divisional Office, Alwar, Rajasthan. FCI conducted enquiry into the matter and it was found that the stock in question did not conform to the specifications laid down by Government of India and, as such, the stock was rejected by FCI.

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Procurement policy of Government of India (GOI) is open ended, under which paddy and wheat offered by farmers within the stipulated period (conforming to specifications prescribed in advance by GOI) are purchased for Central Pool at MSP by Food Corporation of India/ State Governments/ State Government Agencies to help farmers get remunerative price and prevent distress sale.

Coarsegrains are procured at MSP by State Governments as per the procurement plan prepared in consultation with FCI and approved by the Central Government, subject to its distribution by the State Government under National Food Security Act (NFSA)/ Other Welfare Schemes (OWS).

The following steps are taken to ensure that farmers get remunerative price for wheat and paddy:

- i) Before the onset of each marketing season, Department of Food and Public Distribution, Government of India (GOI) holds a consultative meeting with the officials of Food Corporation of India, State Governments and others to make an assessment of availability of wheat and paddy/rice for procurement at MSP based on the prospects of production and market situation.**
- ii) Minimum Support Price (MSP) operations are given wide publicity through pamphlets, banners, sign boards, radio, TV and advertisements through print & electronic media.**
- iii) Farmers are made aware of the quality specifications and purchase system, etc. to facilitate bringing their produce conforming to the specifications.**
- iv) Procurement centres are opened by respective State Government Agencies/ Food Corporation of India, taking into account the production, marketable surplus, convenience of farmers and availability of other logistics / infrastructure such as storage and transportation, etc. Large number of temporary purchase centres, in addition to the existing Mandis and depots/godowns are also established at key points for the convenience of farmers.**

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF THE UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.301 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 04.02.2020 IN THE LOK SABHA.

**STATEMENT SHOWING STATE WISE PADDY AND WHEAT
PROCUREMENT**

(QTY IN LMT)

STATES	Paddy		Wheat	
	KMS 2018-19	KMS 2019- 20*(As on 29.01.2020)	RMS 2018-19	RMS 2019-20
ANDHRA PRADESH	71.73	30.35	0.00	0.00
TELANGANA	77.46	46.09	0.00	0.00
ASSAM	1.53	0.20	0.00	0.00
BIHAR	14.16	2.33	0.18	0.03
CHANDIGARH	0.19	0.22	0.14	0.13
CHHATISGARH	58.40	61.12	0.00	0.00
GUJARAT	0.14	0.20	0.37	0.05
HARYANA	58.83	64.23	87.84	93.20
HIMACHAL PRADESH	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.01
JHARKHAND	2.28	0.30	0.00	0.00
JAMMU & KASHMIR	0.14	0.15	0.00	0.00
KARNATAKA	0.88	0.00	0.00	0.00
KERALA	6.94	1.74	0.00	0.00
MADHYA PRADESH	20.82	22.91	73.13	67.25
MAHARASHTRA	8.66	5.27	0.00	0.00
ODISHA	65.41	35.51	0.00	0.00
PUNJAB	169.16	162.33	126.92	129.12
RAJASTHAN	0.00	0.00	15.32	14.11
NEF (Tripura)	0.10	0.00	0.00	0.00
TAMIL NADU	19.03	1.03	0.00	0.00
UTTAR PRADESH	48.25	51.05	52.94	37.00
UTTRAKHAND	6.89	9.28	1.10	0.42
WEST BENGAL	29.11	0.01	0.00	0.00
TOTAL	660.11	494.32	357.95	341.32

* KMS 2019-20 is under progress.
