

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2520
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04TH AUGUST, 2015

DECLINE IN PROCUREMENT

2520. SHRI PARESH RAVAL:
SHRI RAJESHBHAI CHUDASAMA:
SHRI D.S. RATHOD:
SHRI C.R. PATIL:
SHRI A. ARUNMOZHITHEVAN:
SHRI DEVAJIBHAI G. FATEPARA:
SHRI DILIP PATEL:
SHRIMATI DARSHANA VIKRAM JARDOSH:

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

(a) whether there has been a decline in the quantum of wheat procured by the Government agencies which lagged behind targets fixed for the year 2015-16;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor indicating the targets fixed and achieved and the prices paid by the Government, State-wise; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure that farmers get the M.S.P. for their crops?

A N S W E R
MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN)

(a) & (b): A quantity of 280.88 lakh MT of wheat has been procured for Central Pool during Rabi Marketing Season (RMS) 2015-16, whereas, during RMS 2014-15, procurement of wheat was only 280.23 lakh MT. Thus, the procurement of Wheat in this year has marginally surpassed the previous year's procurement.

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State wise targets for procurement and the quantity procured in Central Pool in RMS 2015-16 is as under :-

In lakh MT

State	Target for Procurement	Quantity Procured
Punjab	120	103.44
Haryana	70	67.78
U.P	30	22.67
M.P	60	73.09
Rajasthan	18	13.00
Uttarakhand	1.5	0.04
Others	0.5	0.86
Total	300.0	280.88

As procurement always fluctuates based on the crop production & market situation in a particular season, the procurement of more than 90% of the target is a good performance, even though it is short of the targets fixed. The slight shortfall in procurement is due to crop damage because of adverse weather conditions during growing/harvesting period in the States like Punjab, Haryana, U.P, M.P and Rajasthan which had also affected the yield.

Government of India had announced Minimum Support Price (MSP) of Rs.1450 per quintal for procurement of wheat for RMS 2015-16, which has been uniformly paid to the farmers in various States/ UTs.

(c): The steps taken by the Government to ensure that farmers get the MSP for their crops are at Annex-1.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (c) OF THE UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2520 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 04.08.2015 IN THE LOK SABHA

The steps taken by the Government to ensure that farmers get the MSP for their crops are as follows:-

1. Keeping in view the procurement potential areas, procurement centres for MSP operations are opened by Government agencies, both FCI and State Government, after mutual consultations.
2. 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.
3. 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 Government to ensure payment to farmers by millers/Private 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 Government /FCI.
4. State Governments are encouraged to undertake decentralized procurement, so as to enhance the procurement of food grains.
5. MSP has been enhanced from time to time to encourage delivery of foodgrains into central pool purchase.
