

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3474

ANSWERED ON:15.05.2006

LOWER PROCUREMENT OF WHEAT

Nedurumalli Janardhana Reddy Shri ;Sippiparai Shri A. Ravichandran;Verma Shri Ravi Prakash

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

- (a) whether procurement of wheat has been low since the Minimum Support Price offered by the Government is much lower than the price in open market;
- (b) if so, details thereof alongwith reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has released the quality parameters for wheat procurement;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government is considering any proposal for imposing restriction on export of wheat by private traders in view of its scarcity in the country; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and by when it is likely to be implemented?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH)

(a)&(b): In RMS 2006-07, 91.64 lakh MT of wheat has been procured upto 10.5.2006 as compared to 143.17 lakh MT of wheat procured during the RMS 2005-06. The reasons for lower level of procurement in current RMS are lower than normal production, active participation of private traders in procurement of wheat, higher market prices than MSP in most of the wheat procuring States and less arrivals of wheat in the mandis as compared to the last year.

(c)&(d): Yes, Sir. Government has issued uniform specifications for wheat procurement for the Rabi Marketing Seasons 2006-07 on 28th February, 2006.

(e): No, Sir.

(f): Does not arise.