

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:375  
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2006  
FOODGRAINS PROCUREMENT POLICY  
Chitthan Shri N.S.V.

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

- (a) Whether there is a huge gap between the demand and supply of foodgrains ;
- (b) If so, whether the Government has formulated a new procurement policy ;
- (c) If so, the details thereof ;
- (d) The time by which it is likely to be implemented; and
- (e) The other steps taken to bridge the demand and supply gap in foodgrains ?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a),(b),(c),(d)&(e) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF THE STARRED QUESTION NO. 375 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 18.12.2006 IN THE LOK SABHA.

(a) : The annual requirement of rice and wheat under the TPDS and welfare schemes based on present offtake trends, is 250 lakh tonnes and 120 lakh tonnes respectively. Against this the domestic procurement of rice and wheat was 276.6 lakh tonnes of rice (Kharif Marketing Season 2005-06) and 92.3 lakh tonnes of wheat (Rabi Marketing Season (RMS) 2006-07).

(b),(c),(d)&(e) : With a view to ensuring adequate production and procurement of wheat it has been decided to fix the Minimum Support Price (MSP) of Wheat at Rs.750 per quintal in the RMS 2007-08 which is Rs.100 per quintal above the MSP announced for RMS 2006-07. Moreover, the shortfall in the domestic procurement of wheat in 2006-07 is being met through imports of 55 lakh tonnes of wheat.