

Difference between procurement and imported price of wheat

‡4663. SHRI NARESH CHANDRA AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the procurement price of wheat fixed by Government and the cost of imported wheat;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the rate of imported wheat is approximately Rs. 500 per quintal more than domestic procurement price of wheat;
- (c) if so, whether Government will give the same price to farmers of the country at which wheat is being imported from abroad; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) The Minimum Support Price (MSP) fixed by Government for procurement of wheat in RMS 2010-11 is Rs. 1100/- per quintal. The landed cost of imported wheat from Australia is Rs. 1105.20 per quintal at Tuticorin port excluding other charges. The landed cost of imported wheat from USA at Indian ports is Rs. 1222.70 per quintal excluding other charges.#

(c) and (d) No, Sir. At present the stock position of wheat at Central Pool is comfortable, hence, the import of wheat is not required for Central Pool. Nevertheless, the MSP of wheat for RMS 2010-11 is Rs. 1100/- per quintal, which is considered to be remunerative. A quantity of 204.43 lakh tonnes of wheat has already been procured, as on 5.5.2010 in RMS 2010-11, at this price.

#Source: NCMSL wheat monitor of 4th May, 2010.

Allocation of foodgrains to BPL card holders

‡4664. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has decided to curtail the State-wise allocation of foodgrains for BPL card holders;
- (b) if so, the details of extent of reduction made in allocation of foodgrains during the last three years, State-wise; and
- (c) the number of BPL card holders and details of supply of foodgrains during last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), allocations of foodgrains are made @ 35 kg per family per month for all 6.52 crore Below Poverty Line (BPL) families, including 2.43 crore Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families in the country accepted for allocation on the basis of 1993-94 poverty estimates of the Planning Commission projected on March, 2000 population estimates of

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.