

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K. V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Minimum Support Price (MSP) of Wheat for the Rabi Marketing Season (RMS) 2012-13 has been fixed at Rs. 1285 per quintal. Details of MSP of wheat during last five marketing seasons is as follows:

Rabi Marketing season	MSP* (In Rs. per quintal)
2007-08	1000
2008-09	1080
2009-10	1100
2010-11	1170
2011-12	1285

\* including bonus.

(c) Due to the efforts made by Food Corporation of India and procurement agencies of the State Governments, quantum of wheat procured under MSP operations is increasing over the period of time. During RMS 2012-13, it is estimated that 318 lakh tonnes of wheat will be procured compared to 283.35 lakh tonnes during RMS 2011-12.

(d) In view of (c) above, does not arise.

#### **Trading pattern in commodities**

4072. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the forward Market Commission has been entrusted the task to watch trading patterns, volatility and individual trader positions in several commodities;

(b) if so, whether the Secretary of the Department of Consumer Affairs has been asked to inquire into the recent fluctuations in the commodity futures market for several items;

(c) if so, the details of the report submitted by the Secretary in this regard; and

(d) the further reaction of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K. V. THOMAS): (a) Yes, Sir. As the regulator for the commodity derivative markets, one of the functions of the Forward Markets Commission (FMC) is to keep forward markets under observation and to take such action in relation to them, as it may consider necessary, in exercise of the powers assigned to it under the Forward Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1952. Thus, the FMC has put in place a mechanism to monitor on daily basis the trader positions, trading patterns and volatility, in all the commodities traded on the commodity exchanges.

(b) to (d) Yes, Sir. Secretary Consumer Affairs has got conducted an inquiry into Guar trade from October, 2011 to March, 2012 by FMC. The inquiry report has been received and is under examination.

#### **Condition of storage facilities**

4073. SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that foodgrain storage facilities in the country are in poor condition and also inadequate and lead to extensive damage to crops;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government has done anything to add and improve these storage facilities;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K. V. THOMAS): (a) to (e) Foodgrain godowns in the country are not in poor condition. The storage capacity, Covered and Cover and Plinth (CAP) available with the Food Corporation of India as on 01.04.2012 was 336.04 lakh MTs, both owned and hired. The storage capacity with state agencies for storage of Central stock of foodgrains as on 31.03.2011 was about 291 lakh tonnes including both covered and CAP capacity. Thus, a total