

To meet the increased requirement of storage space Executive Directors (Zones) and General Managers (Regions) of FCI have been given full powers for hiring of godowns for short term usage to store the procured foodgrains as per their requirement if the capacity available with FCI is not sufficient to store the foodgrains.

(e) The Hon'ble Supreme Court in its order dated 14.05.2011 and 14.09.2011 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 196 directed the Union of India, to reserve 5 million tonnes of foodgrains as a one-time measure, for distribution to the 150 poorest districts or the extremely poor and vulnerable sections of society. Further, the Court directed that the above 5 million tonnes may be allocated on the recommendations of the Committee headed by Justice (Retd.) D.P. Wadhwa. In pursuance of the above directions of Hon'ble Supreme Court and on the recommendations of the Committee, the Government has allocated a quantity of 23.69 lakh tonnes and 15.40 lakh tonnes of rice and wheat for the additional BPL and AAY families in the identified poorest districts in 27 States during 2011-12 and 2012-13 respectively. The above includes 1473 tonnes of foodgrains allocated in February, 2012 for one year to six districts in four States for running community kitchens to provide cooked food in places like Collectorates, City Hospitals, Bus Stops and in pockets inhabited by poor and vulnerable people in collaboration with Corporations/Public Sector Undertakings under Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Programme.

#### **MSP of wheat**

†4071. SHRI RAMCHANDRA PRASAD SINGH:

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for the Rabi crop of wheat has been fixed at Rs. 1,295 per quintal in April, 2012;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the farmers are forced to sell their wheat below this MSP in the grain markets of Uttar Pradesh, Delhi, Rajasthan and Haryana; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard and the reasons therefor?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

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