

(a) the details of paddy procured from Andhra Pradesh during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that procurement has come down from 24 lakh tonnes in 2010-11 to about 10 lakh tonnes in 2012-13; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K. V. THOMAS): (a) The quantity of paddy procured from Andhra Pradesh during the last three years and current year is given below:

Year (KMS)	Quantity of paddy procured (in lakh tons)
2009-10	4.52
2010-11	24.47
2011-12	21.22
2012-13*	8.92
	(as on 06.03.2013)

\* Procurement is still under progress

(b) and (c) No, Sir. The procurement of 24.47 lakh tons of paddy during KMS 2010-11 was for the entire season whereas procurement of paddy in KMS 2012-13 is still under progress. A quantity of 8.92 lakh tons of paddy has been procured as on 06.03.2013 as against 2.54 lakh tons during corresponding period of KMS 2010-11.

#### **Bottled water**

1420. SHRI AVINASH PANDE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of numerous brands of bottled water being put out in the market for sale;

(b) the details of steps Government has taken to ensure the authenticity of bottled water;

- (c) the details about the provisions for price regulation of the same; and
- (d) the details of the reasons for variations in prices of different brands of bottled water?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K. V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. There are 3486 licences for Packaged Drinking Water as per IS 14543 and 22 licenses for Packaged Natural Mineral Water as per IS 13428. These two Indian Standards were notified for mandatory BIS Standard Mark as per Food Safety and Standards Authority of India Regulation, 2011. As per Food Safety and Standards (Prohibition & Restriction on Sales) (Amendment) Regulation, 2011, "No person shall manufacture, sell or exhibit for sale, Natural Mineral Water and Packaged Drinking Water, except under the BIS Mark". In order to obtain the BIS Certification Mark, manufacturers are required to obtain BIS Certification Marks Licence, and a licence number is given, which is unique for each licence. This Standard Mark, to be affixed on the labels of containers of Packaged Drinking Water (PDW) and Packaged Natural Mineral Water (PNMW) includes the licence number given to the manufacturer.

The authenticity of Packaged Drinking Water and Packaged Natural Mineral Water is verified by checking this unique licence number (CML-No.).

(c) and (d) Under the Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 2011 certain declarations like name and address of the manufacture/packer/importer, name of the commodity, net quantity, month and year of manufacturing, retail sale price in the form of Maximum Retail Price (MRP) Rs... inclusive of all taxes and consumer care details are mandatory. Rules provide that consumers can not be charged more than the MRP for the products sold. The exact MRP is fixed by companies depending on cost of production, cost of delivery, market forces and competition etc.

#### **Monthly quota of kerosene, rice, wheat and edible oil**

1421. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the present monthly quota of kerosene, rice, wheat and edible oil fixed under Targeted Public Distribution System for Assam, item-wise;
- (b) whether allocation of these items to the State is sufficient; and