

## Procurement of foodgrains

5.31 Procurement of foodgrains (wheat, rice and coarsegrains) under Price Support Scheme serves the twin purposes of providing remunerative prices to the farmers and of meeting the food security needs besides ensuring regular and adequate supplies for PDS and various welfare schemes. Foodgrains are procured by the Food Corporation of India (FCI) in association with State procuring agencies.

5.32 Andhra Pradesh, Punjab and Haryana are the major rice procuring states, while Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh account for the bulk of wheat procurement.

5.33 Despite recent deceleration in foodgrains growth, foodgrains procurement by the FCI has increased significantly over the years.

5.34 Wheat procurement in 2002-03 marketing year (April-March) was 19.03 million tonnes in January 2003 as against 20.62 million tonnes last year. (Table 5.9) Punjab and Haryana account for more than 80 percent of the wheat procured this year.

Marketing year	Wheat (April - March)		Rice (Oct - Sept)	
	Qty	percent change	Qty	percent change
1995-96	12.33	3.9	9.95	-25.7
1996-97	8.16	-33.8	12.22	22.8
1997-98	9.30	14.0	14.33	17.3
1998-99	12.65	36.0	11.84	-17.4
1999-00	14.14	11.8	17.27	46.5
2000-01	16.35	15.6	19.10	10.6
2001-02	20.63	26.2	21.28	11.4
2002-03*	19.03	-	12.23	-

\* As on February 5, 2003  
Source : Department of Food and Public Distribution.

5.35 Rice procurement upto February 5, 2003 was 12.23 million tonnes as against 13.97 million tonnes in the corresponding period last year. Rice procurement in Punjab at 7.59 million tonnes was higher than last year despite the occurrence of drought.