

Procurement of foodgrains

5.47 The year 2003-04, a normal agricultural year, saw good procurement of foodgrains. Rice procurement during the kharif marketing season (KMS) (October-September) 2003-04 at 22.83 million tonnes was not only higher by a substantial margin of over 6 million tonnes than that in the previous season, but also over the past record of 22.13 million tonnes achieved in KMS 2001-02 (Table 5.15). Wheat procurement during Rabi Marketing Season (RMS) (April-March) 2004-05, which has come practically to an end, was 16.80 million tonnes compared to 15.80 million tonnes in the previous season.

Table 5.15 : Procurement of wheat and rice (Central pool)

Marketing Year	Wheat		Rice	
	(April - March)		(Oct - Sept)	
	Qty	per cent change	Qty	per cent change
1995-96	12.33	3.88	10.07	-26.55
1996-97	8.16	-33.82	12.97	28.80
1997-98	9.30	13.97	15.59	20.20
1998-99	12.65	36.02	12.60	19.18
1999-00	14.14	11.78	18.23	44.68
2000-01	16.35	15.63	21.28	16.73
2001-02	20.63	26.18	22.13	3.99
2002-03	19.05	-7.66	16.42	-25.80
2003-04	15.80	-17.06	22.83	39.04
2004-05	16.80	6.33	14.34*	—

(Million tonnes)

* As on January 14, 2005
Source : Department of Food and Public Distribution.

5.48 As per the second advance estimates released by the Ministry of Agriculture on January 19, 2005, the production of rice in 2004-05 is likely to be 87.80 million tonnes, compared to 87 million tonnes in the previous year. Progress of procurement of rice during KMS 2004-05, which started from October 2004, indicates that procurement up to January 14, 2005 of 14.34 million tonnes was nearly one million tonnes higher than 13.41 million tonnes procured in the corresponding period of 2003-04.

5.49 Till recently, it was a common grievance of many States that their farmers have not benefited much from the price support operations, since the procurement of foodgrains by the Food Corporation of India (FCI) had been largely concentrated in a few states, such as Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh. Two States, Punjab and Haryana, accounted for more than 80 per cent of the procurement of wheat by the FCI in the years 2002-03 to 2004-05, and the States of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh accounted for nearly 80 per cent of the rice procured by the FCI in the years 2001-02 and 2002-03 (Tables 5.16 and 5.17). In order to address the concerns of the other surplus rice growing states, FCI strengthened the procurement of rice from Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Orissa, Tamil Nadu, and West Bengal, resulting in higher rice procurement in these states in 2003-04. As a result, the share of rice procurement from the four states of Andhra Pradesh, Haryana, Punjab, and Uttar Pradesh declined to 73 percent in 2003-04.

Table 5.16 : Procurement of wheat (lakh tonnes)

State/U.T.	Quantity (Lakh tonnes)			Percentage Share		
	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
Bihar	0.41	0.01	0.15	0.22	0.01	0.09
Haryana	58.88	51.22	51.15	30.95	32.42	30.46
Himachal Pradesh	0.02	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.00
Madhya Pradesh	4.38	1.88	3.49	2.30	1.19	2.08
Punjab	98.80	89.38	92.40	51.85	56.57	55.02
Rajasthan	4.61	2.59	2.79	2.42	1.64	1.66
Uttaranchal	1.84	0.67	0.54	0.97	0.42	0.32
Uttar Pradesh	21.10	12.13	17.41	11.07	7.68	10.37
Chandigarh	0.16	0.00	0	0.08	0.00	0.00
Delhi	0.34	0.12	0.02	0.18	0.08	0.01
Total	190.54	158.01	167.95	100	100	100

Source : Department of Food and Public Distribution.

Table 5.17 : Procurement of rice (lakh tonnes)

State/U.T.	Quantity (Lakh tonnes)			Percentage Share		
	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
Andhra Pradesh	64.26	26.35	42.30	29.04	16.04	18.53
Bihar	0.89	1.59	3.63	0.40	0.97	1.59
Chhattisgarh	19.21	12.91	23.74	8.68	7.86	10.40
Haryana	14.84	13.24	13.34	6.71	8.06	5.84
Maharashtra	1.29	1.52	3.08	0.58	0.93	1.35
Orissa	12.53	8.90	13.73	5.66	5.42	6.02
Punjab	72.83	79.40	86.62	32.91	48.35	37.94
Tamil Nadu	8.52	1.07	2.07	3.85	0.65	0.91
Uttar Pradesh	19.36	13.60	25.54	8.75	8.28	11.19
West Bengal	0.48	1.26	9.25	0.22	0.77	4.05
Others	7.08	6.39	4.98	3.20	2.67	2.18
Total	221.29	164.23	228.28	100.00	100.00	100.00

Source : Department of Food and Public Distribution.