

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1097

ANSWERED ON:24.11.2000

SURPLUS STOCK OF FOODGRAINS

BHIM PRASAD DAHAL;DINESH CHANDRA YADAV;PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI;RAMCHANDRA PASWAN;RAMSHETH THAKUR;RUPCHAND PAL;VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN;VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL

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

- (a) the production of foodgrains in the country during each of the last three years;
- (b) the quantum of foodgrains stock with Food Corporation of India along with quantum of foodgrains stocked in excess with value as on date;
- (c) the stock lifted from FCI under Public Distribution System during each of the last three years;
- (d) the manner in which the Government propose to dispose of excess stock of foodgrains;
- (e) the criterion fixed for selling of these foodgrains in open market and to the Below Poverty Line families;
- (f) whether the Government are considering a downward revision of prices; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SRIRAM CHAUHAN)

- (a) The production of foodgrains in the country during each of the last three years is as under:

Figs. In Million Tonnes

1997-98 1998-99 1999-2000 (advance Estimates)

192.26 203.04 205.91

- (b) The buffer norms for stocks of foodgrains to be maintained in the Central Pool are fixed by the Government on quarterly basis i.e. on 1st January, 1st April, 1st July and 1st October every year. On 1st October, 2000, the stocks of foodgrains in the Central Pool was 40 million tonnes against a buffer norm of 18.1 million tonnes. The surplus stocks of around 22 million tonnes is valued at Rs.17230 crores.

- (c) The stocks lifted under PDS/TPDS during each of the last three years is as under:

Figs. In Million Tonnes

1997-98 1998-99 1999-2000

16.8 18.4 15.7

- (d) The following steps have been initiated to dispose off the surplus foodgrains:

- (i) Open sale of wheat and rice has been started from 11.07.2000 and 4.9.2000 respectively.
- (ii) The CIP of rice and wheat for APL families have been fixed at 100% of the economic cost or the open market sale price decided

by the FCI from time to time, whichever is lower.

(iii) The allocation of foodgrains for BPL families @ 20 Kg. per family per month is now being made on the basis of population projections as on 01.03.2000 instead of projected population of 1995.

(iv) Foodgrains will be allocated at BPL rates to

(i) welfare institutions catering to the needs of destitute men, women and children at the rate of 5 Kg. per head per month and

(ii) for all welfare schemes of Government of India including 'Food for Work programme'.

(v) FCI has been permitted to offer wheat for export at a price not lower than the CIP for BPL category which, at present, is Rs.4150/- per MT.

(e) Sale of wheat under Open Market Sale Scheme (Domestic) is open to any consumer, trader, Roller Flour Mill, Chakki, Co-operative, Super Bazar, Civil Supply Corporation etc., subject to purchase of minimum quantity of 10 MTs. The prices have been fixed separately for each Zone.

(f) & (g) : No, Sir.