

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1053  
ANSWERED ON:01.03.2011  
FOODGRAINS STOCK  
Mahendrasinh Shri Chauhan ,Sinh Dr. Sanjay

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

- (a) the available stock of wheat and rice in the country at present;
- (b) the stock of wheat and rice considered adequate for ensuring food security in the country;
- (c) whether the Government has prepared any action plan for creating adequate stock of foodgrains in the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a): The stock in Central Pool as on 1.2.2011 was 193.73 lakh tons of wheat and 278.02 lakh tons of rice.

(b): The minimum stock of food grains required to be maintained under the buffer stock norms for food grains in the Central Pool for each quarter of the year are as under:

(in lakh tons)

1st January 1st April 1st July 1st October

Rice 138.00 142.00 118.00 72.00

Wheat 112.00 70.00 201.00 140.00

Total 250.00 212.00 319.00 212.00

The above buffer norms include Food Security Reserve of 30 lakh tons of Wheat & 20 lakh tons of Rice.

The current level of stocks of food grains in the Central Pool is adequate to meet the requirements of food grains under TPDS and other Welfare Schemes at the existing level of allocations.

(c) & (d): Besides, giving higher Minimum Support Prices to the farmers, the Government has initiated other steps including commission to Cooperative Societies/ Self-help Groups in order to extend the outreach of MSP operations to the small and marginal farmers and asking State Governments to open adequate number of procurement centres. This has resulted in higher procurement of wheat and rice and in building a comfortable food grains stock position in the Central Pool in the last three years.