

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3164  
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2011  
STOCK OF FOODGRAINS  
Dhotre Shri Sanjay Shamrao;Wankhede Shri Subhash Bapurao

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

- (a) the current stock of foodgrains in the country;
- (b) whether the said stocks are adequate to meet the anticipated internal demand of foodgrains in the country including those for the welfare schemes being run by the Government;
- (c) if so, the details thereof indicating the anticipated demand of foodgrains in the country for the current year;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to lift the ban on the export of foodgrains; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to ensure adequate availability of foodgrains and to check price rise in the country?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (e): The stock position of foodgrains in the Central Pool as on 1.3.2011 was 458.83 lakh tons comprising of 171.57 lakh tons of wheat and 287.26 lakh tons of rice. The current level of stocks of foodgrains in the Central Pool is adequate to meet the requirements of foodgrains under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and other Welfare Schemes (OWS) at the existing level of allocations.

Under the TPDS, allocations of foodgrains are made to States/Union Territories(UT) @ 35 kg. per family per month for all accepted number of Below Poverty Line (BPL) including Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families. The allocation of foodgrains for Above Poverty Line (APL) families is made depending upon the availability of stocks of foodgrains in the Central Pool and past offtake. The present level of allocations to APL families is between 10 kg and 35 kg per family per month in different States/ UTs. The allocation of foodgrains are made for OWS such as Mid-Day-Meal Scheme, ICDS, Welfare Institution, Emergency Feeding Programme, etc implemented by various Ministries/Departments of the Government of India as well as State / UT Governments on the basis of assessed requirements under these schemes. On the above basis, the annual requirement of foodgrains for TPDS and OWS is 488.62 lakh tons.

Government has banned export of wheat and non-basmati rice with effect from 9.2.2007 and 1.4.2008 respectively and the ban is still continued except export on humanitarian aid/diplomatic basis to friendly countries. Imports of non-basmati rice and wheat are also allowed at zero duty. This is to stabilize prices of wheat and non-basmati rice in the domestic market and to maintain sufficient stocks for ensuring food security in the country. Besides, the normal allocations of foodgrains under TPDS during the current year, the Government has made adhoc additional allocations of 136.72 lakh tons of foodgrains to States/ UTs from the Central Pool to make more foodgrains available in the market to control prices in the open market.