

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2501

ANSWERED ON:16.08.2011

PROCUREMENT OF FOODGRAINS

Bhagat Shri Sudarshan;Biju Shri P. K.;Bundela Shri Jeetendra Singh;Das Shri Ram Sundar;Mishra Shri Govind Prasad;Patel Shri Deoraj Singh;Shankar Alias Kushal Tiwari Shri Bhisma;Singh Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad;Singh Shri Pashupati Nath

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

- (a) the total carry over and buffer stock of foodgrains from the previous year alongwith the total quantum of foodgrains procured during the current year;
- (b) the targets set for procurement during ensuing seasons;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to streamline the storage system and add more capacity to ensure proper preservation of the foodgrains;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon; and
- (e) the manner in which the Government proposes to utilise the surplus stock which cannot be safely preserved due to various constraints?

Answer

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

(a): The actual stock position of wheat and rice vis-À-vis buffer norms, as on 1.7.2011 is as under:-

(In lakh tonnes)

Wheat	Rice	Total
-------	------	-------

Actual stock including strategic reserve	Buffer norm including strategic reserve	Actual stock including strategic reserve	Buffer norm including strategic reserve
--	---	--	---

371.49	201	268.57	118	640.06	319
--------	-----	--------	-----	--------	-----

The actual stocks as on 1.7.2011 include carryover stocks from the previous year as well as the procurements made during the current year.

(b): The estimated target for procurement of wheat and rice from 2010-11 crop was 262.75 lakh tonnes and 327.52 lakh tonnes respectively.

(c) & (d): In view of increase in procurement during the last few years, Govt. of India has taken necessary measures to enhance foodgrains storage capacity. To increase storage capacity, the Government has formulated Private Entrepreneur Guarantee (PEG) scheme for construction of storage godowns through public entrepreneurs, Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) and State Warehousing Corporations (SWCs). Under the scheme, a capacity of 152.97 lakh tonnes has been finalized for creation in 19 States. Out of this, tenders have been finalized for creation of storage capacity of 52.32 lakh tonnes by the private entrepreneurs. CWC and SWCs are constructing 5.31 and 15.49 lakh tonnes respectively under the Scheme, out of which a capacity of about 3.5 lakh tonnes has already been completed by CWC/SWCs.

(e): All requisite measures are taken to preserve stored foodgrains both under covered and CAP capacities by following prescribed quality control measures. In order to liquidate surplus stocks of wheat and rice, additional allocations of 50 lakh tonnes of foodgrains for BPL and 50 lakh tonnes of foodgrains for APL families have been made in the month of May and June respectively. The Govt. has

also made allocations for 25 lakh tonnes of wheat and 10 lakh tonnes of rice for sale under Open Market Sale Scheme (Domestic) for the period January to September, 2011.