

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5387

ANSWERED ON:06.09.2011

SUPPLY OF FOODGRAINS

Joshi Dr. Murli Manohar;Singh Shri Rajiv Ranjan (Lalan)

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

- (a) whether the proposed food security scheme for providing foodgrains to the poor has been delayed;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor alongwith the action taken for implementation of the said scheme at the earliest;
- (c) whether there are sufficient stocks of foodgrains in the country to meet the demand under the proposed scheme;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the steps taken to increase the stocks of foodgrains in the country?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): In pursuance to the announcement made by the President of India in her address to the Joint Session of Parliament on 4th June, 2009, to enact a new law – the National Food Security Act – the Government prepared a Concept Note and had consultations with the Central Ministries/Departments, States/Union Territories, experts and other stakeholders. Based on their comments/suggestions and recommendations of National Advisory Council (NAC) and Expert Committee constituted under the Chairmanship of Chairman, Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Council, the Government have prepared a draft National Food Security Bill, covering various aspects of the proposed legislation.

After consultations with States/Union Territories and Central Ministries/Departments on the Draft Bill, approval of Government at the appropriate level will be obtained before its introduction in the Parliament.

(c) to (e): The stock position of rice and wheat in the Central Pool as on 1.7.2011 was 640.46 lakh tons as against the minimum buffer norm of 319 lakh tons.