

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1271  
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2011  
BAN ON WHEAT EXPORT  
Kumar Shri Vishwa Mohan

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

- (a) whether the Ministry has made recommendations for continuation of ban on wheat export even with surplus production and stock of wheat during the current year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether sufficient stock of wheat is estimated to be available for domestic consumption at low prices till the next rabi harvest season; and
- (d) if so, the details of modalities for making available the surplus wheat at low prices to the people?

**Answer**

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

(a)&(b) No, Madam. Rather based on the recommendations of the Department of Food & Public Distribution, the Empowered Group of Ministers(EGoM) in its meeting held on 08-09-2011 decided to export 20 lakh tons of wheat out of privately held stocks through Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) ports. The above decision has been taken in view of record production and procurement of wheat and rice in recent years and sufficient availability of stocks in Central Pool far in excess of buffer norms/ strategic reserves and also due to temporary paucity of storage space.

(c)&(d) Yes, Madam. As per the Central Pool Wheat Budget for 2011-12, the stock position of wheat in the Central Pool as on 1.11.2011 is 296.71 lakh tons and the estimated opening balance of wheat as on 1st April, 2012 is likely to be 161.35 lakh tons against the buffer norms and strategic reserve of 70 lakh tons, sufficient to meet the domestic consumption of wheat under Targeted Public Distribution System(TPDS) as well as other welfare schemes till the next Rabi harvest season. Considering the requests received from the States/UTs and to offload the surplus stocks available in the Central Pool, Government has been making additional allocations of foodgrains (wheat & rice) from time to time. During 2010-11 & 2011-12, the following additional allocations of both wheat and rice have been made:-

- i. 30.66 lakh tons of foodgrains in May 2010 for BPL/AAY/APL families. This includes 16.86 lakh tons of wheat @ Rs.8.45 per kg.
- ii. 31.06 lakh tons of foodgrains in August 2010 for APL families which includes 18.04 lakh tons of wheat at APL prices.
- iii. 50.00 lakh tons of foodgrains for BPL families at BPL prices to all States/UTs in September, 2010 and January 2011. This includes 15.79 lakh tons of wheat at APL prices.
- iv. 25.00 lakh tons of foodgrains in January 2011 for APL families which includes 13.75 lakh tons of wheat @ Rs.8.45 per kg.
- v. 50.00 lakh tons of foodgrains for BPL families at BPL prices to all States/UTs in May 2011. This includes 15.79 lakh tons of wheat.
- vi. 50.00 lakh tons of foodgrains allocated on 30.6.2011 including 35.57 lakh tons of wheat.
- vii. Based on the directions of Hon'ble Supreme Court, 23.67 lakh tons of foodgrains allocated for 174 poorest/backward districts in 27 States during July to October 2011 at AAY/BPL prices. This includes 2.76 lakh tons and 6.19 lakh tons of wheat made at AAY and BPL prices respectively.