

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3506
ANSWERED ON:19.03.2013
ADDITIONAL STOCK OF FOODGRAINS
Mahendrasinh Shri Chauhan

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

- (a) the estimated quantity of additional/surplus wheat and rice likely to be stored in the Government godowns by the end of March, 2013;
- (b) whether the said storage of additional foodgrains would result in increased financial burden on the Government;
- (c) if so, the additional burden to be borne by the Government during the year 2013-14;
- (d) the reasons for storage of such a huge quantity of foodgrains; and
- (e) the measures taken to deal with this situation and liquidate excess stocks to reduce the cost in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) : The estimated quantity of wheat and rice in the central pool as on 01.04.2013 due to procurement operation is as under:

Rice	355.69 lakh MT
Wheat	246.03 lakh MT

(b) to (e): As per the existing procurement policy, the Central Government extends price support for paddy, wheat and coarsegrains through Food Corporation of India (FCI) and State Governments /State agencies. All the foodgrains conforming to the prescribed specifications offered for sale by farmers at specified procurement centres are bought by the procurement agencies at Minimum Support Price (MSP) for Central Pool.