

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5705
ANSWERED ON:30.04.2013
REQUIREMENT OF FOODGRAINS
Nagar Shri Surendra Singh;Singh Shri Pashupati Nath

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

- (a) whether there is any shortage of stocks of various essential commodities including wheat, rice, pulses, edible oil and sugar in the country as against their normal requirement and buffer/ storage norms;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the corrective steps taken to maintain adequate stocks;
- (c) whether the Government has conducted any survey regarding foodgrains requirement in the country; and
- (d) if so, the details and the outcome thereof indicating the quantum required along with the quantum of foodgrains allocated during each of the last three years and the current year?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): The stocks of foodgrains (wheat and rice) in the Central Pool as on 1.4.2013 was 596.75 lakh tons comprising of 242.07 lakh tons of wheat and 354.68 lakh tons of rice, as against the buffer norms of 212 lakh tons comprising 70 lakh tons of wheat and 142 lakh tons of rice. The allocation under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) including Other Welfare Schemes (OWS) are indicated in the table below.

The estimated production of pulses as per the second advance estimates for 2012-13 is 175.80 lakh tons. Demand of pulses during 2012-13 is estimated at 204.80 lakh tons. The gap is met through import of pulses.

The total consumption of edible oils during 2011-12 was 189 lakh tons annually against which 89.57 lakh tons was available domestically and 99.43 lakh tons was imported.

The estimated sugar production for 2012-13 sugar season at about 246 lakh tons against the domestic demand of about 230 lakh tons. With the carryover stock of about 66.96 lakh tons of the preceding season, the availability of sugar stocks in the country will be sufficient to meet the domestic requirement.

(c) & (d): No such survey has been conducted by the Government. However, the allocation of foodgrains under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and Other Welfare Schemes (OWS) during the last three years and the current year so far is as under:-

(in Lakh tons)

Year	Quantity
2010-11	632.46
2011-12	615.26
2012-13	627.67
2013-14	463.95