

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1192
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2015
FOODGRAIN STOCKS
Ajmal Shri Sirajuddin;Innocent Shri

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

- (a) whether adequate foodgrain stocks are available in the Central pool to meet the domestic requirement and contain prices;
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating the current stocks and estimated requirement of foodgrains during the ensuing year and if not, the remedial steps taken in this regard; and
- (c) the details of procurement of foodgrains made by various agencies along with the transit and storage losses suffered during each of the last three years and the current year and the steps taken to minimise such losses, crop and State/UT-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI RAOSAHEB PATIL DANVE)

(a) & (b): Yes Madam. The stock of foodgrains in the Central Pool as on 16.2.2015 was 353.67 lakh tons against the minimum buffer norms of 214.10 lakh tons for January-March quarter which is adequate to meet the requirement under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and Other Welfare Schemes (OWS). The estimated annual requirement of foodgrains under National Food Security Act (NFSA) is 614.3 lakh tons.

(c): The crop and State/UT-wise details of procurement of foodgrains along with transit and storage losses during each of the last three years and the current year are at Annex-I to VI.

The Government has taken several steps to minimize storage and transit losses such as proper quality check at the time of procurement, adoption of proper scientific code of storage practices, use of wooden crates, bamboo mats to avoid moisture from the floor, prophylactic and fumigation are carried out regularly in FCI godowns, effective rat control measures, regular inspection of stocks/godowns by Senior Officers, use of First in First Out (FIFO) method to avoid longer storage of foodgrains, deployment of security staff and use of covered wagons for movement of foodgrains etc.