

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5728

ANSWERED ON:28.04.2015

SHORTFALL IN PROCUREMENT

Arunmozhithevan Shri A.;Ering Shri Ninong;Rajoria Dr. Manoj;Scindia Shri Jyotiraditya Madhavrao;Singh Shri Rakesh

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

(a) whether the production and consequently the procurement of foodgrains particularly wheat is likely to be lower in view of the recent hails- torm and untimely rains, if so, the details thereof indicating the estimated production and procurement during the ensuing year;

(b) whether the present stock of foodgrains is adequate to meet the demand for the ensuing season, if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken to meet the shortage, if any; and

(c) whether the Government has entered into any contract for import of wheat and if so, the details thereof and the extent to which it is likely to bridge the shortfall of foodgrains?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN)

(a): Unseasonal rains, strong winds and in certain areas hailstorm, occurred in all major wheat producing states like Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and Uttarakhand. Due to such rains procurement may be lower from the initial estimates of 300 Lakh MT. However, relaxation granted by Government of India may mitigate impact on procurement. So far production of Rabi Crops including wheat is concerned; same has been adversely affected by unseasonal rains in February/ March this year. However, it is too early to arrive at exact estimates of loss of production of wheat during 2014-15. A statement indicating state-wise area of Rabi Crops affected by unseasonal rains is at Annex-I.

(b): The yearly requirement of foodgrains after implementation of National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013 in all the States/Union Territories (UTs) is estimated at 61.43 Million tones. NFSA has so far been implemented only by 11 States/UTs. The allotment and offtake of foodgrains under NFSA/Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) (including additional allocations) and Other Welfare Schemes (OWS) excluding Open Market Sale Scheme (Domestic)/Tender Sales/Export during 2011-12 to 2014-15 has been as under:-

(Figs. in lakh Tonnes)

Year Allotment Offtake

Wheat Rice Total Wheat Rice Total

2011-12	289.72	367.50	657.22	229.85	320.36	550.21
2012-13	277.47	356.18	633.65	232.99	325.40	558.39
2013-14	269.98	341.91	611.89	220.70	290.30	511.00
2014-15	241.09	372.86	613.95	225.71	326.61	552.32

The stock of foodgrains in Central Pool as on 01.04.2015 visvis the buffer norms for 1st April is as under:-

(Figs. In Million Tonnes)

Item Wheat Rice Grand

(including Total  
paddy in  
terms of  
rice)

Stock 17.22 23.82 41.04  
as on  
01.04.2015  
Buffer 7.46 13.58 21.04  
Norms for  
1stApril

Further, the procurement of wheat for Rabi Marketing Season 2015-16 has commenced and procurement of rice for Kharif Marketing Season 2014-15 is continuing.

In view of above there will be no shortage of foodgrains to meet the demand against the allotment of 53.41 million tonnes of foodgrains for TPDS/NFSA and OWS for the year 2015-16.

(c): The Government has not entered into any contract for import of wheat as there is sufficient stock of foodgrains in the Central Pool Stocks.