GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 192 TO BE ANSWERED ON 22ND JULY, 2025

WHEAT AND RICE STOCKS IN FCI GODOWNS

192 SHRI MUZIBULLA KHAN:

Will the Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution be pleased to state:

- (a) the current level of buffer stock of wheat and rice with the FCI as on June 30, 2025;
- (b) whether it meets the minimum buffer norms; and
- (c) the steps being taken to control food inflation amid fluctuating procurement?

A N S W E R MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRIMATI NIMUBEN JAYANTIBHAI BAMBHANIYA)

(a) and b): The details of stock position as on 1st July vis-a-vis buffer norms are as below: -

(Fig. in Lakh MT)

Buffer Norms				Stocks in Central Pool			
As on	Rice	Wheat	Total	As on	Rice	Wheat	Total
1 st July 2025	135.40	275.80	411.20	1 st July 2025	377.83	358.78	736.61

As such, stocks are above buffer norms.

(c): To moderate the market prices and enhance the availability of foodgrains, the Government of India sells surplus food grains (Wheat & Rice), beyond the public Distribution System (PDS) and Other Welfare Schemes (OWS) requirements, through open sale under Open Market Sales Scheme[(Domestic) (OMSS(D)]. This helps increase the availability of foodgrains in the market, control inflation, ensure food security and make foodgrains more affordable for the general population. In addition, Bharat Atta and Bharat Rice were launched on 6.11.2023 and 6.02.2024, respectively, with a view to provide atta (wheat flour) and rice to general consumers at subsidized rates under OMSS(D) policy.

Further, in order to manage the overall food security and to prevent hoarding and unscrupulous speculation, the Government of India has imposed stock limits on Wheat applicable to Traders/Wholesalers, Retailers, Big Chain Retailers and Processors in all States and Union Territories.
