

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

**RAJYA SABHA**  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2907  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 19<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2025**

**FOODGRAIN FOR REGIONS AFFECTED BY DISASTERS**

2907 **SHRI RATANJIT PRATAP NARAIN SINGH:**

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

- (a) the steps taken to ensure timely deployment of foodgrain stocks in flood and cycloneaffected regions;
- (b) the manner in which the Ministry coordinate with State Governments to assess and respond to food shortages during droughts;
- (c) the mechanisms in place to monitor the real-time availability of buffer stocks in disasterprone zones;
- (d) the reasons as to why Government has prioritized pre-positioning of food supplies in vulnerable districts; and
- (e) the manner in which technology is being used to track distribution and prevent leakage during emergency relief operations?

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

(a): The Government has prescribed norms for maintaining buffer stocks and strategic reserves of foodgrains, as detailed below:

(quantity in LMT)

As on	Operational Stock			Strategic Reserve		Grand Total
	Rice	Wheat	Total	Rice	Wheat	
1st April	115.80	44.60	160.40	20.00	30.00	210.40
1st July	115.40	245.80	361.20	20.00	30.00	411.20
1st October	82.50	175.20	257.70	20.00	30.00	307.70
1st January	56.10	108.00	164.10	20.00	30.00	214.10

The Food Corporation of India (FCI) maintains pre-identified storage points at strategic locations and pre-positions buffer stocks in vulnerable districts ahead of the monsoon and cyclone seasons. Dedicated transport arrangements by road, rail, and inland waterways are kept ready for rapid movement during disasters. Emergency reserve stocks are also maintained at FCI depots located in or near disaster-prone areas for immediate response.

An Emergency Support Function (ESF) Plan has been issued, containing the details of the Nodal Officer of the Department of Food and Public Distribution (DFPD) for coordination with the Ministry of Home Affairs, as well as information on Quick Response Teams (QRTs) at both FCI Headquarters and field levels for prompt emergency response.

(b): During drought situations, close coordination is maintained with State Governments through joint assessments, regular meetings and field reports to assess requirements and ensure that relief operations are implemented in line with State Disaster Management Plans and guidelines issued by the Central Government.

(c): The real-time availability of buffer stocks is monitored through an online stock monitoring system integrated with FCI's depot-level data. GIS mapping of godowns is used to assess accessibility during adverse conditions.

(d): Pre-positioning of food supplies in vulnerable districts has been prioritised to reduce response time, ensure immediate availability of foodgrains after a disaster, and mitigate logistical disruptions caused by damaged transport infrastructure.

(e): The transparency portal and online grievance redressal facility/Toll free number have been implemented in all States/UTs. Also, online allocation has been implemented in all States/UTs and supply chain has been computerized in 31 States/UTs (except UTs of Chandigarh, Puducherry and Urban area of Dadra & Nagar Haveli which have adopted DBT Cash Transfer scheme). Further, for better tracking of foodgrains distribution, nearly all Fair Price Shops (FPSs) in the country have been automated by installing ePoS devices for the distribution of foodgrains in a transparent manner (electronically) through biometric/ Aadhaar authentication of beneficiaries.

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