

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1794
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04TH AUGUST, 2026

STOCK OF GRAINS HELD BY CENTRAL POOL

1794 SHRI BRIJ LAL:
SHRI JAGGESH:
SMT. MAYA NAROLIYA:
SHRI BABUBHAI JESANGBHAI DESAI:
SMT. REKHA SHARMA:
SHRI MITHLESH KUMAR:
SHRI SHIVESH KUMAR:
SHRI MAYANKKUMAR NAYAK:
SHRI KESRIDEVSINH JHALA:
SHRI AMAR PAL MAURYA:
SHRI SANJAY BHATIA:
SHRI SUBHASH BARALA:
SHRI RAJINDER GUPTA:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the total quantity of Wheat and Rice held in the Central Pool as on 1st April, 2026 exceeded the prescribed buffer norms;
- (b) whether the quantum of wheat procurement achieved during the Rabi Marketing Season 2026–27 is higher as compared to the previous season;
- (c) whether Government has data on the number of farmers who benefited through Minimum Support Price (MSP) operations during the Rabi Marketing Season 2026–27;
- (d) whether Government has taken steps to ensure efficient utilisation of surplus foodgrain stocks so as to optimise storage costs; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a): Total stock of foodgrains and Foodgrains Stocking Norms in Central Pool (Buffer Stocks) as on 1st April, 2026 is given below:

(Fig. in Lakh MT)

Stock of Wheat and Rice				Foodgrain Stocking Norms (Buffer Stocks)		
As on	Wheat	Rice	Total	Wheat	Rice	Total
1 st April, 2026	217.92	386.10	604.02	74.60	135.80	210.40

(b) & (c): The procurement of wheat and number of farmers benefited during the Rabi Marketing season 2025-26 and 2026-27 are given below:

Rabi Marketing Season	Procurement of Wheat (In LMT)	Numbers of farmers benefited
2025-26	299.75	2512823
2026-27	357.57	3482564

(d) & (e): Government of India sells surplus foodgrains (Wheat and 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 06.11.2023 and 06.02.2024, respectively, with a view to provide atta (wheat flour) and rice to general consumers at subsidized rates under OMSS(D) policy.
