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

STOCK OF FOODGRAINS

2784. SHRI SANATAN PANDEY: SHRI AZAD KIRTI JHA:

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

- (a) the details of the present stock of foodgrains in the country;
- (b) whether the said stock is sufficient to meet the estimated internal demand of foodgrains in the country including welfare schemes being run by the Government;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the estimated demand of foodgrains in the country during the current year;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to lift the ban on export of foodgrains; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to ensure adequate availability of essential foodgrains and to check price rise in the country?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

(SHRIMATI NIMUBEN JAYANTIBHAI BAMBHANIYA)

- (a): The stock of foodgrains in the central Pool as on 30.07.2025 is 346.78 LMT of Wheat and 381.59 LMT of Rice against the foodgrains stocking norms of 275.80 LMT of Wheat and 135.40 LMT of Rice for July 2025 September 2025
- (b) and (c): The Department of Food and Public Distribution has made allocation of 183.87 LMT of Wheat and 402.78 LMT of Rice for distribution to the beneficiaries under National Food Security Act (NFSA) and Other Welfare Schemes (OWS) for the year 2025-2026. The stock available in Central Pool is sufficient to meet domestic requirement under National Food Security Act (NFSA) and Other Welfare Schemes (OWS) and Additional allocation (natural calamity, festival, etc.).

- (d): The Government priorities food security as enshrined under the National Food Security Act, 2013 and hence provides all means to ensure adequate stock of foodgrains in the Central Pool.
- (e): 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 imposes stock limits on Wheat applicable to Traders/Wholesalers, Retailers, Big Chain Retailers and Processors in all States and Union Territories.

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