

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:971  
ANSWERED ON:28.07.2000  
P.D.S. QUOTA  
ABUL HASNAT KHAN

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

- (a) whether the Government are burdened with huge wheat stocks in the country costing the nation over Rs.3000 crores as storage expenses and generating a thought of exporting the surplus wheat or bartering wheat with edible oils or other essential items;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government are also planning to increase the PDS quota of wheat while reducing the issue price of the commodity substantially;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION ( SHRI SRIRAM CHAUHAN )

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir, as on 30.06.2000, the following stocks of wheat were available in the Central Pool which entail an expenditure of about Rs.3000 crores as carrying cost if these are not disposed of during the period of one year.

(Figs. In lakh tonnes)

Stock as on 30.06.2000

Commodity With FCI State Agencies Total Buffer norm as on Excess  
Ist July, 2000

Wheat	113.44	164.13	277.57	143.00	134.57
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(c),(d) & (e): Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution has already increased the foodgrains allocation w.e.f. 1.4.2000 in favour of State/U.T. Governments. The Central Issue Price of wheat and rice has already been reduced from 25th July, 2000 as follows:-

(Rs. per qtl.)

Commodity BPL APL

1. Wheat 415 830

2. Rice

(i) Common 565 -

(ii) Grade `A` 565 1130

The comparison between the total allocation of foodgrains during March, 2000 and April, 2000 is given below:-

(Figs. in lakh MTs)

March, 2000 April, 2000

SCHEME Rice Wheat Total Rice Wheat Total

APL 4.91 3.28 8.19 5.37 3.46 8.83

BPL 3.20 2.83 6.03 6.56 5.29 11.85

Additional 2.35 2.34 4.69 0.11 0.01 0.12

Total 10.46 8.45 18.91 12.04 8.76 20.80