

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 362
TO BE ANSWERED ON 3RD FEBRUARY, 2026

BUFFER STOCK OF KEY COMMODITIES

362 SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI:

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

- (a): the current level of buffer stock maintained for key commodities like Wheat and Rice;
- (b): whether there is any shortage or surplus in buffer stocks; and
- (c): the strategies adopted to ensure adequate buffer stocks to tackle emergencies?

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

- (a): The Buffer Norms of food grains for the Central Pool are as under: -

(Fig. in Lakh MT)

Buffer Norms			
As on	Rice	Wheat	Total
1st April	135.8	74.6	210.4
1st July	135.4	275.8	411.2
1st Oct	102.5	205.2	307.7
1st Jan	76.1	138.0	214.1

- (b): The current stock position of rice and wheat (as on 27.01.2026) is 331.52 LMT & 261.01 LMT, respectively, which is well above the stocking norms.

(c): To ensure availability of food grains during emergencies and to maintain food security, the Government maintains buffer stocks of key commodities such as wheat and rice in accordance with prescribed buffer stock norms. Adequate quantities are procured during harvest seasons at Minimum Support Price (MSP) through central and de-centralized procurement mechanisms. The buffer stocks are managed through scientific storage practices, periodic review of stock position, and regular rotation of food grains to prevent deterioration.
