

Sufficient stocks are available in central pool to meet the requirement of the country

New Delhi, 17 October, 22- Sufficient stocks are available in central pool to meet the requirement of NFSA and other schemes of Govt. of India as well as for additional requirement of PMGKAY. As on 1st Oct,22 approximately 227 LMT of wheat and 205 LMT of rice are available in the Central pool which is well above the buffer norms / operational requirement.

Even after meeting the requirement of stocks under NFSA, Other welfare schemes as well as PMGKAY VII, as on 1st of April 2023 sufficient stock will be available under central pool which is over & above the buffer norms. It is estimated that as on 1st of April 2023, approximately 113 LMT wheat and 237 LMT rice will be available in the central pool after meeting all the requirements, against the buffer norms / operational requirement of 75 LMT of wheat and 136 LMT of rice.

Procurement of Kharif crop of Paddy in the current KMS 2022-23 has commenced. A quantity of around 58 LMT Paddy (39 LMT in terms of Rice) have been procured up to 16.10.2022 which is higher as compared to the procurement during the corresponding period last year in KMS 2021-22. The rainfall condition this year has been fairly good in the country and the production of paddy is expected to remain normal.

For Kharif crop of current KMS 2022-23, a quantity of 771 LMT Paddy (518 LMT in terms of Rice) has been estimated to be procured. With the inclusion of Rabi paddy, it is expected that around 900 LMT paddy will be procured during the entire KMS 2022-23.

Procurement of wheat would commence from April' 2023. On account of fairly good rainfall condition in the country, it is expected that Wheat production and procurement in the next Rabi Season shall remain normal.

Considering high nutritional value of coarsegrains termed as "Nutri-cereals", GOI has planned to procure 13.72 LMT during KMS 2022-23

under central pool against procurement of 6.30 LMT during KMS 2021-22.

To ameliorate the hardship faced by the poor due to economic disruption caused by COVID-19, Government of India has taken pro-poor initiatives and allocated free foodgrain to about 80 Crores people of the country under PMGKAY in addition to existing PDS and other welfares schemes. A total quantity of 1121 LMT foodgrains has been allocated under PMGKAY with an expected financial outlay of Rs. 3.91 lakh Crore. Such large release of foodgrains coupled with regulation of exports, has ensured that domestic price has largely remained stable compared to international price of these commodities.

Stock scenario is given as under:

Fig. in LMT

Commodity	Stock Position as on 1st Oct 22	Buffer Norms as on 1st Oct 22	Projected Stock Position as on 1st April 23	Buffer Norms as on 1st April 23
Wheat	227	205	113	75
Rice	205	103	237	136
