

(b) The buffer norms and expected average stocks of rice for the next six months is expected to be as follows:

(in lakh tones)		
Date	Expected Stocks	Buffer Norms
1st July, 04	113.00	100.00
1st October, 04	70.00	65.00
1st January, 05	135.00	84.00

(c) The stocks in the Central pool in the FCI godowns are already above the buffer norms.

Decline in calorie consumption

104. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of per-capita calorie consumption in the country during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that the per-capita calorie consumption has been on the decline;

(c) if so, the details and the reasons therefor; and

(d) the details of measures Government have taken to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (c) As per information available about energy consumption of rural population from surveys of the National Nutrition Monitoring Bureau (NNMB) of National Institute of Nutrition, Hyderabad under Indian Council of Medical Research there is no statistically significant difference in energy consumption.

(d) Government have initiated several measures to improve the nutritional status of the population such as:—

- Increased agricultural production.
- Improving the purchasing power of the people through income generating schemes.

- Availability of essential food items at subsidized cost through Public Distribution System.
- National Nutrition Policy (1993) and National Plan of Action on Nutrition (1995) are being implemented in the country.
- Nutrition education to increase the awareness and bring about desired changes in the dietary practices including the promotion of breast-feeding.
- Supplementary Feeding Programmes
 - (i) Integrated Child Development Services Scheme (ICDSS)
 - (ii) Wheat based supplementary Nutrition Programme
 - (iii) National Programme of Nutritional Support to Primary Education (Mid Day Meal Programme)
 - (iv) Pradhan Mantri Gramyodya Yojana (PMGY)
- Programme for prevention of Specific Micronutrient Deficiency Disorders
 - (i) National Iodine Deficiency Disorders Control Programme (NIDDCP)
 - (ii) Prophylaxis Programme to prevent Nutritional Blindness due to Vitamin 'A' Deficiency and Nutrition at Anaemia due to Iron deficiency. Both these programmes are under the Reproductive Child Health Programme (RCHP)
 - (iii) Pilot Project Programme for control of Micronutrient Malnutrition.

Subsidy for export of wheat and rice

†105. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to provide subsidy for the export of wheat and rice;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the rates fixed for providing subsidy;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.