

DEPARTMENT OF FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
MONTHLY SUMMARY FOR THE MONTH OF April, 2020

- Under the reforms initiative in PDS, a total of 4.84 lakhs (89.6%) Fair Price Shops (FPSs) have been automated by installing electronics point of sale (ePoS) device, alongwith biometric/Aadhar authentication facilities. About 70% of food-grains of total allocated food-grains across the country are being distributed by using these e-POS devices. 5 more States/UTs i.e. Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman Diu have requested to start national portability in the month of May. In these States testing of inter State Portability has been completed successfully.
- Further, Distribution of food-grains under NFSA for the month of April has been completed almost in all States/UTs except Punjab due to six month cycle distribution methodology. Besides, Distribution of food-grain under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) is about 73% of allocated food-grains for the month of April. The shortfall is due to distribution schedule of some States i.e. West Bengal, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Punjab, Delhi, Gujarat, Dadra & Nagar Haveli & Daman Diu and is expected to be cover the target by mid May.
- The stocks of food-grains in the Central Pool as on 01.05.2020 were 642.73 LMT (Wheat- 357.70 LMT and Rice- 285.03 LMT) which are much higher than food-grain stocking norms of 210.40 LMT (wheat 74.60 LMT and Rice 135.80 LMT) for the quarter beginning April 1, 2020.
- Open Market Sales Scheme (OMSS) (D) policy 2020-21 for sale of wheat and rice has been finalized and issued on 21.04.2020 and a total quantity of 0.32 Lakh MT of wheat and 1.87 Lakh MT of rice have been sold in the open market till 5th tender of April, 2020.
- The Department issued instructions to FCI for supply of food-grains to all charitable/non-governmental organizations etc. engaged in relief operations/running community kitchens for migrant labourers/vulnerable groups due to the present lockdown condition. These food-grains would be supplied throughout the country at the uniform rate of Rs 21/kg for wheat and Rs.22/kg for rice. There will be no upper limit for allocation of food-grains to such organizations from any FCI depot.
- This Department conveyed the decisions of Secretaries' Committee that Rice would be issued at Rs.2250/- qtl to MoPNG for conversion to ethanol.
- This Department has conveyed to Secretary, M/o Animal Husbandry and Dairying that no decision was taken regarding the issue of surplus stock of FCI to poultry

industry as Secretary, M/o Animal Husbandry and Dairying felt that even with 15% discount, there would be no takers for surplus stocks for poultry.

- During ongoing Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2019-20 (as on 30.04.2020) in Eastern States 73.63 LMT of paddy in terms of rice has been procured as against 60.10 LMT during the corresponding period of KMS 2018-19. During KMS 2018-19, 71.85 LMT of paddy in terms of rice was procured in Eastern States.
- During ongoing KMS 2019-20, 426.44 LMT (as on 30.04.2020) of paddy in terms of rice has already been procured against the estimates of 523.92 LMT (Kharif 416LMT + Rabi 107.92 LMT). During the ongoing Rabi Marketing Season (RMS) 2020-21, 129.53 LMT of wheat has been procured (as on 30.04.2020) against total estimates of 407.00 LMT. During RMS (2019-20), 341.33 LMT of wheat was procured.
- Cumulative capacity of 143.63 Lakh MT has been completed under PEG scheme. Under Central Sector Scheme "Storage & Godowns", a fund of Rs. 16.00 Crore (NE-Rs. 15.00 Crore and Other than NE-Rs.01.00 Crore) has been released to FCI. Additionally, Rs. 13.58 Crore (Sikkim-Rs. 9.58 Crore and Mizoram-Rs. 4.00 Crore) has been released to State Governments.
- As far as construction of modern silos is concerned, silo operators have been selected for a total capacity of 44.25 LMT at 85 locations (including 1.5 LMT at 3 locations where private parties have requested for cancellation). Against this, a total capacity of 7.25 LMT has been created at 15 locations. In order to fast track the progress of construction of steel silos, a professional study was got conducted by FCI through M/s RITES for examining the feasibility of road-side silos with containerized movement. After examination of the aforesaid report, this Department has accorded "in-principle approval" for construction of silos under the Hub and Spoke model as proposed by FCI. The process to modify tender documents and identify locations is being undertaken.
- Further, to address the issue of surplus stock, this Department has accorded approval for CAP hiring scheme 2019 as proposed by FCI. In this scheme, a total of 90 LMT (Punjab: 35 LMT; Haryana: 20 LMT; Madhya Pradesh: 25 LMT and Uttar Pradesh: 10 LMT) of CAP is proposed to be constructed in Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode for accommodating wheat for the ensuing Rabi Marketing Season 2020-21. As on 30.04.2020, a total capacity of 26.46 LMT was under construction (Punjab 3.38 LMT, Haryana 3.58 LMT, MP 19.50 LMT) and a further capacity of 32.15 LMT had been awarded through tender (Punjab 6.23 LMT, Haryana 3.92 LMT, MP 22 LMT).
- As per online reports received from the sugar mills, the production of sugar from sugarcane including domestic raw sugar during the sugar season 2019-20 (October-September) as on 30.04.2020 is about 256.67 lakh tonnes as against 312.81 lakh tonnes during the corresponding period of the last sugar season 2018-19.

- For the sugar season 2019-20, as on 30.04.2020 out of total payable cane price of Rs.65103 crore, an amount of Rs 44098 crore has been paid and cane dues of about Rs 21005 crore are pending. The cane price arrears of sugar season 2018-19, as on 30.04.2020 was Rs 971 crore.
- During Sugar Season 2019-20, as on 30.04.2020 about 37 LMT of sugar has also been delivered from sugar mills for export under Open General License (OGL).
- Government vide notification dated 17.04.2020, has extended the validity of in-principle approval accorded by this Department from 1.5 years to 2 years under the Scheme for extending financial assistance to sugar mills for enhancement and augmentation of ethanol production capacity.