

DEPARTMENT OF FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
MONTHLY SUMMARY FOR THE MONTH OF May, 2018

- Under the reforms initiative in PDS, a total of 3,16,987 (60.00%) Fair Price Shops (FPSs) now stand automated with Aadhaar linked bio-metric authentication facilities. At present, Aadhaar seeding with ration cards stands about 83.5% (at least one member of family) and beneficiary wise Aadhaar seeding in ration card data stands about 73.64% across the country.
 - The stocks of foodgrains in the Central Pool continue to remain comfortable at 680.25 LMT (242.70 LMT of rice and 437.55 LMT of wheat) as on 01.06.2018.
 - The Department is in the process of formulation of policy for sale of excess stock of wheat and rice in the open market through Open Market Sale Scheme (Domestic) {OMSS(D)} during 2018-19. The Committee of Secretaries constituted for this purpose has made its recommendations in its meeting held on 21.05.2018. The recommendations, after approval of Hon'ble Minister (CA, F&PD), will be sent to the Hon'ble Finance Minister for final approval.
 - During ongoing Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2017-18, in Eastern States, a quantity of 57.08 LMT of paddy in terms of rice has been procured by Govt. agencies as on 04.06.2018 against 56.06 Lakh MT during corresponding period of KMS 2016-17.
 - Procurement in other parts of the country has been brisk in the current KMS 2017-18, wherein 352.26 lakh MT of rice in form of paddy (as on 30.05.2018) has already been procured against the target of 430 lakh MT. During RMS 2018-19, 341.53 LMT of wheat has already been procured (till 30.05.2018) against the target of 320 LMT.
 - The progress in respect of recommendations of the High Level Committee (HLC) for revamping of FCI is as follows:
 - a) The Depot Online System (DOS) is currently operational at all 530 functional Depots of FCI. In case of CWC, DOS has been implemented at all 156 Depots hired by FCI.
 - b) As far as construction of modern Silos is concerned, Silo operators have been selected for a total capacity of 44 LMT at 84 locations out of which 6.25 LMT silos have been completed at 13 locations. Further, tenders for 5.50 LMT have been issued.
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- In order to help sugar mills to clear cane dues of farmers, the Government has notified a scheme on 09.05.2018 to provide financial assistance @ Rs.5.50 per quintal of cane crushed in sugar season 2017-18 to sugar mills to offset cost of cane. The said assistance shall be paid directly to the farmers on behalf of the mills and be adjusted against the cane price payable due to the farmers against Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP) including arrear relating to previous years.
- For the sugar season 2017-18, as on 31.5.2018, out of total payable cane price of Rs. 82819 crore, an amount of Rs. 60153 crore has been paid and cane dues of Rs. 22666 crore is pending.
