

## Offtake

5.35 Total offtake of foodgrains from the Central Pool during 2003-04 (up to March 2004) was 47.93 million tonnes as against 49.64 million tonnes during 2002-03. Export of foodgrains accounted for 21.5 per cent (10.3 million tonnes) of the total offtake, while welfare schemes absorbed another 28.2 per cent (13.5 million tonnes).

5.36 Encouraging output of rice and wheat in 2003-04 ensured robust procurement at the ruling MSP and stock replenishment. WPI-based average inflation rates were low or modest at 1.8 per cent for rice and at 3.10 per cent for wheat. Off-take for the public distribution system in 2003-04 remained more or less constant at the higher level observed in 2002-03 (Table 5.14). Availability of rice and wheat is likely to remain comfortable in the coming months.

**Table 5.14 : Foodgrains allocation and offtake under Public Distribution System**  
(Million tonnes)

Year	Wheat		Rice	
	Allocation	Offtake	Allocation	Offtake
1992-93	9.25	7.47	11.48	9.55
1993-94	9.56	5.91	12.41	8.87
1994-95	10.80	4.83	13.32	8.03
1995-96	11.31	5.81	14.62	9.75
1996-97	10.71	8.52	15.10	11.14
1997-98	10.11	7.08	12.83	9.90
1998-99	10.11	7.95	12.93	10.74
1999-00	10.37	5.76	13.89	11.31
2000-01*	11.57	4.07	16.26	7.97
2001-02*	13.14	5.68	17.23	8.16
2002-03*	38.66	9.78	36.02	10.35
2003-04*	37.11	10.71	34.46	12.08

\* including Antyodaya  
Source : Department of Food and Public Distribution.