

Loss of Foodgrains in Godowns of FCI and CWC

945. **SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY** : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether in the context of loss of foodgrains in the godowns of Food Corporation of India Central Warehousing Cooperation, Government are considering streamlining the working of Food Corporation of India and the Central Warehousing Corporation to minimise such losses; and

(b) if so, the details of losses during January, 1983 to January, 1985 along with reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA (SINGH)) :

(a) The Government have been constantly monitoring and reviewing performance of the FCI and the CWC with a view to improving their efficiency as also reducing the losses of foodgrains in storage or in transit.

(b) The total storage loss in foodgrains suffered by Food Corporation India during the years 1982-83 and 1983-84 was 0.65% and 0.59% of the quantities issued/transferred out. The loss in storage of foodgrains in the various warehouses run by CWC was 0.6% in 1982-83 and 0.7% in 1983-84. The accounts for the remaining periods have not been finalised so far.

The storage losses of foodgrains arise out of various factors such as vagaries of weather, moisture loss and deterioration in quality on account of long storage etc.

Agricultural Production in India

946. **SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY** : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that although about seventy per cent of India's population depends on Agriculture yet India is still backward in production of Rice, Wheat Crops, Sugar Cane, etc.;

(b) whether Government propose to take up a study to see how best India can improve agricultural production in coming up on top; and

(c) if so, details of such a study ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR) : (a) India's rank in the world production of rice, wheat, sugarcane and various other agricultural crops is quite high. The productivity of these crops has also risen appreciably during the recent years.

(b) and (c). The Government have been continuously taking appropriate steps to increase production and productivity of various crops in the country, as a result of which, it has been possible to achieve significant growth in the production of foodgrains particularly wheat, oilseeds, sugarcane, cotton and jute and mesta.

Requirement of N.P.K. Chemical Fertilisers during Seventh Plan

947. **SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY** : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have made an assessment of the total quantity of Chemical Fertilisers (N.P.K.) required during each year of Seventh Plan;

(b) whether it has also been assessed as to what requirements are being met indigenously and the quantity that will have to be imported;

(c) in case some imports of Chemical Fertilisers are necessitated, then give details of the foreign exchange element involved, year-wise; and

(d) the time by which India is likely to become selfsufficient in the production of chemical fertilisers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR) : (a) and (b). Government has worked out estimated consumption figures of chemical fertilisers (N+P+K) required by the year 1989-90 i.e. last year of the Seventh Five Year Plan. Similarly, projections of fertiliser production have been made for the Seventh Plan. However, plan for import of fertiliser is worked out during each year to cover the gap between the estimated demand and estimated indigenous production of fertiliser.