

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3085
ANSWERED ON:10.08.2001
DAMAGED FOODGRAINS IN FCI GODOWNS
BODAKUNTI VENKATESHWARLU; RATNA SINGH

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Food Corporation of India has more than 4,00,000 tonnes of damaged foodgrains in storage which is unfit for human consumption;
- (b) whether the foodgrains have damaged because of lack of storage technology with Government ;
- (c) whether the Union Government have initiated steps to upgrade the available technology or to introduce new technology for storage of foodgrains;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the value of the damaged foodgrains in the godowns of FCI at present?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI CHAUHAN)

- (a): No, Sir. As on 1st of July 2001, the quantity of damaged foodgrains was 1.82 lakh tones out of F.C.I.'s total stock of 327.06 lakh tones, which is only around 0.56% of the stock.
- (b): No, Sir. The FCI undertakes storage of foodgrains in scientifically build godowns and in a scientific manner. The quality and condition of stocks is monitored by undertaking periodic inspections at regular intervals. Necessary, prophylactic and curative disinfestations treatments are undertaken for preservation of the foodgrain stocks.
- (c)&(d): In order to reduce storage and transit losses of foodgrains, and to introduce modern technology of bulk handling, storage and transportation of foodgrains, the Government has announced a national policy on handling, storage and transportation of foodgrains. The policy envisages harnessing the efforts and resources of public and private sectors, both domestic and foreign, to build and operate infrastructure for bulk handling, storage and transportation of foodgrains. The policy also envisages creation and operation of conventional storage godowns by private sector for storage of foodgrains of the FCI on Build-Own-Operate (BOO) basis.
- (e): The value of the damaged foodgrains in the godowns of FCI at present is of Rs.6.04 Crores approximately.