

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2616
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2006
NATIONAL FOODGRAINS STORAGE POLICY
Khairi Shri Chandrakant Bhaurao

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

- (a) Whether the Government proposes to implement National Foodgrains Storage Policy ;
- (b) If so, the details thereof alongwith the salient features thereof ;
- (c) Whether the construction work for new godowns is being handed over to the private sector under the new foodgrains storage policy; and
- (d) If so, the steps taken to protect the interests of the consumers under this policy ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH)

- (a) : Yes, Sir. The Government is implementing the National policy on handling, storage and transportation of foodgrains.
- (b):The policy envisages encouragement of private sector for the creation of bulk grain handling, storage and transportation facilities.The salient features of the policy are:
 - (i) Encouragement of mechanical harvesting, cleaning and drying at farm and mandi level.
 - (ii) Transportation of grain from farm to silos by specially designed trucks.
 - (iii) Construction of a chain of silos at procurement as well as distribution points.
 - (iv) Transportation of grain in specially designed bulk rail wagons.
- (c) : Under the policy, bulk grain handling, storage and transportation facilities to the tune of 5.5 lakh MTs are being created through private sector participation on Build-Own-Operate (BOO) basis.
- (d) : The quality of wheat stored in such facilities (silos) would be maintained and the interest of the consumers would be protected.