

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:172

ANSWERED ON:09.03.2010

COLD STORAGE FACILITIES

Kashyap Shri Virender;Mahto Shri Baidyanath Prasad

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether adequate cold storage facility exists for perishable agricultural products in the country;
- (b) if so, the number of cold storages under the public and private sectors in the country including in hilly States, State-wise;
- (c) the details of the recurring expenditure incurred in the maintenance and for the new capacity addition during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (d) the extent to which cold storages have helped in reducing loss of perishable goods in the country; and
- (e) the steps taken to assist the entrepreneurs in setting up of new cold storage facilities in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.172 DUE FOR REPLY ON 09-03-2010.

(a) & (b): In view of growth in production of perishable agricultural products, there is a need for creation of additional cold storage facilities in the country. The State-wise number of Cold Storages under Public and Private Sectors including Cooperative Sectors in the country as on 31-12-2008 is at Annexure-I.

(c) to (e): Assistance is provided to the entrepreneurs in setting up of new cold storage facilities in the country through the schemes of National Horticulture Mission (NHM), National Horticulture Board (NHB), Technology Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture in North Eastern States, Sikkim, J&K, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand (TMNE), Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) and Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MFPI). The details of assistance provided under these schemes during each of the last three years, State-wise, are placed at Annexure-II to Annexure VI. Under the scheme of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana, State Governments can also take up construction of cold storages. In order to attract the private sector, Government of India has also allowed investment linked tax incentives for the business of setting up and operating cold chains, including cold storages, for storing agricultural produce. No assistance is provided under Central Schemes for recurring expenditure for maintenance of the cold storages. Cold storages help in reducing the loss of stored perishable goods substantially. However, a quantitative estimate of its extent is not available.