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

STARRED QUESTION NO:30 ANSWERED ON:27.07.2010 ROTTING FOODGRAIN STOCKS Choudhary Shri Harish;Chowdhury Shri Adhir Ranjan

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

- (a) whether a large quantity of foodgrain stocks were reported to have rotted owning to the failure to lift stocks and also alleged poor storage in the Food Corporation of India (FCI) godowns;
- (b) if so, the details of the quantity and value of foodgrains damaged/ rotted. State-wise including Punjab and Uttar Pradesh;
- (c) whether and inquiry is being conducted;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the corrective steps taken to check such wastage in future and compensate the farmers?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a),(b),(c),(d) & (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF THE STARRED QUESTION NO.30 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 27-07-2010 IN THE LOK SABHA.

(a) to (e): Reports have been received about damage to wheat and rice stocks in Food Corporation of India (FCI) depots. Details of damaged stocks of foodgrains existing in FCI depots as on 01.07.2010 are given in Annex-I.

Recently a team from Department of Food & Pubic Distribution was deputed to inspect storage situation of foodgrains in FCI depots at Hapur, Orai and Harduaganj in Uttar Pradesh. The team has observed damage to wheat stocks at these depots and dereliction of duty by FCI officers. Based on its report, FCI has taken penal action against concerned officers. FCI has also been directed to get inspected foodgrain stocks in all its depots and take corrective measures for ensuring their proper storage.

Corrective steps being taken by FCI for proper storage, movement and safe upkeep of foodgrains are given in Annex-II. In FCI depots, farmers' stocks of wheat and rice are not stored, only Central Pool stocks after procurement from the farmers are kept there.