

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2746
ANSWERED ON:10.08.2010
AGREEMENT ON FOODGRAIN STORAGE
Mani Shri Jose K.

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

- (a) whether a team has recently visited China to study the foodgrain storage practices being followed there;
- (b) if so, the details and the outcome thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken to employ these techniques for preservation of foodgrain stocks in the country to ensure successful implementation of the Food Security Act?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

a) to (c): Yes, Madam. A five members delegation led by Hon'ble Minister of State for Agriculture, Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution, Government of India and comprising of officers from Department of Food & Public Distribution, Food corporation of India and Central Warehousing Corporation visited China between 7 – 11 June, 2010 to study the use of modern grain storage technology in China. The members of the delegation visited grain storage facilities of State Administration of Grain (SAG) of the Chinese Government and interacted with officials of the SAG. The delegation saw storage practices being used in modern silos and flat temperature controlled warehouses for grain storage.

The recommendations of the delegation are under examination. These include steps required for undertaking studies on use of appropriate storage technology in the Indian context, modernization norms for existing warehouses, launching of suitable pilots, modernization of grain analysis laboratories with government agencies and to explore the possibility of setting up of a separate Special Purpose Vehicle for the purpose etc. However, no decision has been taken so far to adopt Chinese Technology to preserve foodgrains in India.