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

STARRED QUESTION NO:325 ANSWERED ON:17.08.2010 TRANSPORTATION OF FOODGRAINS Chaudhary Shri Arvind Kumar

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

(a) whether transportation and distribution of foodgrains are governed by specific policy/orders/guidelines;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether reports have been received regarding the damage of foodgrains during inter-State transportation by road and rail;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor indicating the number of cases reported and the quantum and value of foodgrains involved therein; and

(e) the reasons for the delay in transportation alongwith the quantity of wheat/foodgrains transported during each of the last three years and the current year?

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), (b), (c), (d) & (e) OF THE STARRED QUESTION NO. 325 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 17.08.2010 IN THE LOK SABHA

(a) & (b): Transportation of foodgrains is done on the basis of the requirement by the consuming regions, vacant storage capacity and need for evacuation from the procuring regions etc. The stocks are normally moved out on first in first out principle. The foodgrains are normally transported by Railways except where transportation is cheaper by road or there are constraints of wagon availability or storage space.

FCI is responsible for transportation of foodgrains upto its designated depots. The responsibility for lifting the foodgrains from these designated depots and distributing the allocated foodgrains within the States/UTs is with concerned State/UT Government.

(c) & (d) : Yes Madam, there have been reports of damage to foodgrains during transportation from one state to another through road and by rail. The details of quantity and value of foodgrains damaged in transportation from one State to another during last three years and current year is as under:-

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Year Quantity Value involved
(in MTs) (in Rs Lakh)
2010-11 145.5 9.05
(Upto July 2010)
2009-10 328 19.22
2008-09 552 33.94
2007-08 654 38.78
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Region wise details are attached as annexure I to IV.

(e) FCI prepares a monthly movement plan in consultation with Railways administration to move stocks from procuring regions to consuming regions and attempts are made by FCI and Railways to move foodgrains as per plan. All India movement during the last three years and current year is given below: -

(Figure in lakh tonnes) Year Wheat Rice Total

2007-08 90.20 168.16 258.36 2008-09 110.41 150.08 260.49 2009-10 146.15 165.70 311.86 2010-11 55.09 37.13 92.22 (Prov. Upto July, 2010)