

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:3  
ANSWERED ON:09.11.2010  
DISTRIBUTION OF FOODGRAINS  
Lagadapati Shri Rajagopal;Ram Shri Purnmasi

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

- (a) the total quantum of foodgrains damaged during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (b) whether the Supreme Court has expressed its concern over the rotting of foodgrains and directed the Union Government to distribute foodgrains to the poor free of cost or at low prices instead of letting them rot in the godowns;
- (c) if so, the reaction of the Government;
- (d) the steps taken thereon, indicating the quantum of foodgrains distributed under the Public Distribution System during each of the last three years and the current year; and
- (e) the manner in which the damaged foodgrains have been disposed of/are proposed to be disposed of?

**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 STARRED QUESTION NO. 3 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 09.11.2010 IN THE LOK SABHA.

(a) Details of foodgrains accrued as damaged with FCI and State Government agencies in Punjab and Haryana are Annexed.

(b), (c) & (d): In view of reports of damages to Central Pool stocks of foodgrains in some godowns of FCI and State agencies during last monsoon season, Hon'ble Supreme Court expressed concern and suggested to Government to take some long term and short-term measures. While adequate storage facilities be created in the long term, increase in quantum of food supply to BPL population and distribution of foodgrains to deserving population at very low cost or no cost may be taken up in the short term.

In view of surplus stocks of foodgrains available in the Central Pool, constraints faced in storage capacity and above suggestions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, Government has made additional ad-hoc allocation of 25 lakh tons of foodgrains at BPL prices for distribution to BPL families in States/UTs.

Out of allocations of foodgrains made under Targetted Public Distribution System (TPDS) during last three years and current year, the offtake has been as follows:

Year    Quantity  
      (in lakh tons)

2007-08    332.9

2008-09    346.0

2009-10    424.0

2010-11    179.87  
(Upto Aug.  
2010)

(e) For disposal of damaged Central Pool foodgrains, there is a standard procedure to be followed. After identifying the damaged foodgrains, they are grouped into various categories of possible use such as animal feed, industrial use, manure and unfit for any use. While the damaged quantities unfit for any use are destroyed, those of other categories are sold by auction.