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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:181
ANSWERED ON:09.11.2010
SURPLUS STOCKS
Rajendran Shri C.;Semmalai Shri S.

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

(a) the estimated quantum of surplus wheat and rice, in excess of the buffer norms, likely to be available in the Food Corporation of India godowns by the end of March 2011;

(b) whether the economic burden on the Government has increased due to the said surplus storage of foodgrains;

(c) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years and the current year alongwith percentage of food subsidy spent on holding this excess stock;

(d) whether the Government proposes to construct additional storage godowns;and

(e) if so, the details thereof, and if not,the reasons therefor?

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) The likely stocks of wheat and rice as on 1.4.2011 are estimated to be 111.46 lakh ton and 272.28 lakh ton respectively against buffer norm of 70 lakh ton and 142 lakh ton respectively.

(b) & (c) : The information is being obtained from FCI.

(d) & (e) : Yes, Madam. The FCI has prepared a shelf of projects with an estimated cost of Rs.133 crores, against an allocation of Rs.125 crores during the 11th Five Year plan. A capacity of 1,38,770 metric ton is likely to be created with the funds allocated subject to availability of land for the purpose. As a long-term measure, for augmentation of the storage capacity in the country, the Government has formulated a Scheme for construction of godowns for FCI (as well as for the States undertaking Decentralized Procurement of Foodgrains), through private entrepreneurs. Under the Scheme, FCI would give a guarantee of 10 years for the storage charges. A capacity creation of about 150 lakh ton has been approved in various States under this scheme.