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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2244 ANSWERED ON:23.11.2010 SHORTAGE OF STORAGE SPACE

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

- (a) whether there is a shortage of storage space and some of the existing godowns are in a dilapidated condition leading to loss/damage to foodgrains;
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating the number and capacity of godowns held by various agencies, foodgrains stored therein and foodgrains damaged during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (c) the estimated quantum of foodgrains likely to be produced during the ensuing year alongwith the storage capacity likely to be available with the Government agencies;
- (d) whether any time bound programme has been initiated to crerate adequate and high-tech storage capacity including sites and repair/renovation of the existing godowns; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

## **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): No, Madam. There are no FCI godowns in dilapidated condition. Periodical maintenance of the godowns are carried out for their proper upkeep and to maintain them in storage- worthy condition. However, due to the shortage of covered storage facilities with FCI, foodgrains are also stored in Cover and Plinth (CAP) storage which is on scientific lines. There is a code of practice for the scientific storage of foodgrains to be stored under CAP.
- (b): The number of godowns held by Food Corporation of India as on 31-03-2008, 31-03-2009 and 31-03-2010 are at Annexures -I to III respectively. The State-wise capacities with the Food Corporation of India as on 30-06-2008, 30-06-2009 and 30-06-2010 are at Annexures -IV to VI respectively. The State-wise capacities with the Food Corporation of India as on 15.10.10 is at Annexure -VIII and the number of godowns with FCI as on 30.6.2010 is at Annexure-VIII. The capacities available with other agencies State-wise as on 31st March 2010 is at Annexure-IX.

The quantity of foodgrains accrued as damaged/non-issuable in FCI due to various reasons during the last three years and current year are as under:-

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Figures in MTs

Year Wheat Rice Paddy Coarsegrains Total

2007-08 924 32615 887 0 34426

2008-09 947 19163 0 4 20114

2009-10 2010 3680 1012 0 6702

2010-11 665 1720 0 2441 4826

(Upto Sept. 2010)
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(c): The expected foodgrains production as per the 1st advance estimates for 2010-11 (Kharif) is 1146.347 lakh tonnes. The total storage capacity available (owned / hired) with FCI as on 15.10.2010 is 306.84 Lakh tonnes out of which covered capacity is 275.30 Lakh tonnes and the Cover and Plinth (CAP) capacity is 31.54 Lakh tonnes. The Storage capacity both covered and CAP available with the State agencies as on 31-03-2010 is 295.50 lakhs tonnes.

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(d)&(e): To create additional storage capacity, the Government has formulated a scheme for construction of storage godowns through private entrepreneurs. Under the scheme, the Food Corporation of India would now give a guarantee of ten years for assured hiring. A capacity of about 150 lakh tonnes is to be created under the scheme through private entrepreneurs and Central and State Warehousing Corporations in 19 States. Out of the capacities sanctioned tenders have been invited in 15 States and so far offers have been received for about 103 lakh tonnes. Under the scheme the Private entrepreneur is expected to complete construction of godowns with Railway siding within 2 years of finalization of agreement and within 1 year in case of non-railway siding godowns. CWC and SWCs are constructing about 17 lakh tonnes on their own lands under the Scheme. Out of this, 0.97 lakh tonnes has already been completed and about 3.08 lakh tonnes would be completed by March, 2011. Further, in the Eleventh Five Year Plan, the Planning Commission has sanctioned Rs. 149 crores for construction of storage godowns by FCI and the State Governments to which funds are released as grants-in-aid. This would result in the construction of about 1.88 lakh tonnes of storage capacity. The General Managers (Region) of FCI have also been given full powers for hiring of private godowns for short term usage.