

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:88

ANSWERED ON:01.03.2011

STORAGE CAPACITY

Das Shri Ram Sundar;Yadav Shri Hukumdeo Narayan

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

- (a) the required and the actual storage capacity of State owned godowns in the country including Bihar, State-wise and agency-wise;
- (b) the procurement targets fixed by the Food Corporation of India (FCI) and other procurement agencies for the ensuing crop season alongwith the available storage capacity, separately, State-wise;
- (c) the steps being taken by the Government for augmenting the storage capacity alongwith the achievements made therein;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to provide subsidy for construction of rural warehouses; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(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) AND (e) OF THE STARRED QUESTION NO. 88 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 1st MARCH, 2011 IN THE LOK SABHA

(a) & (b) : The overall storage capacity available with FCI both owned and hired from different agencies including Covered and Cover and Plinth (CAP) is 311.20 lakh MTs as on 31.01.2011. The statement showing the state-wise capacity is placed at Annexure-I.

To substantially reduce CAP storage capacity, the Government has formulated a Guarantee Scheme for construction of godowns for FCI as well as for the States undertaking Decentralized Procurement of foodgrains, through private entrepreneurs and CWC and SWCs. For the consuming areas, storage capacity is to be created to meet four month's requirement of Public Distribution System (PDS) and other Welfare Schemes in a State. For the procurement areas, the highest stock levels in the last three years are considered to decide the storage capacity required. The additional storage capacity required State-wise is at Annexure-II.

For Kharif Marketing Season 2010-11, the estimated rice procurement is likely to be 327.523 Lakh Tonnes. State-wise estimates are given at Annexure-III. For Rabi Marketing Season 2011-12 the wheat procurement is estimated to be 262.75 lakh tonnes as per the initial estimates. The State-wise details are at Annexure-IV.

(c): For augmenting the storage capacity the Government has given approval for construction of about 150 lakh tonnes of additional covered capacity in 19 States of the country under the Guarantee scheme. Out of this tenders have already been finalized for 16.06 lakh tonnes so far for creation of capacity by the private entrepreneurs. Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) and State Warehousing Corporations (SWCs) are also constructing 5.31 and 10.64 lakh tonnes respectively under the Scheme. 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 is likely to 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.

(d) & (e): Yes, Madam. A Capital Investment Back-ended Subsidy Scheme namely Rural Godown Scheme has been launched by Directorate of Marketing and Inspection, Department of Agriculture & Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture since 1-4-2001.

Under the revised scheme w.e.f. 26/06/2008, subsidy at the rate of 25% of the project cost is being given to all categories of farmers, Agriculture graduates, cooperatives & CWC/ SWCs. All other categories of individuals companies and corporations are being given subsidy at the rate of 15% of the project cost. In case of North East States/hilly areas & SC/ST entrepreneurs and their cooperatives and Women Farmers, subsidy shall be 33.33%. Since the Rural Godown Scheme is demand-driven, no State-wise targets of capacity and allocation of funds is made.