

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2004

ANSWERED ON:08.03.2011

STORAGE OF FOODGRAINS

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

- (a) the quantum and value of foodgrains damaged alongwith the causes thereof during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (b) the manner in which they were disposed of during the above period, Statewise;
- (c) whether there is a mismatch between requirement and availability of storage space in the country on the eve of arrival of fresh procurement;
- (d) if so, the details thereof indicating the requirement and availability of storage space alongwith the quantum of foodgrains stored in the open during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to create fresh storage space to ensure safe storage of foodgrains; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the follow-up action taken thereon?

Answer

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

(a): Details of region-wise stocks of foodgrains accrued as damaged/ non-issuable during the last three years and current year with FCI are at Annex I.

The foodgrains get damaged due to various reasons such as storage pest attack, leakages in godowns, procurement of poor quality stocks, during movement of stocks, exposure to rains, floods etc. and in some cases due to negligence of officials/officers for which suitable administrative action are initiated against defaulters where ever found guilty.

Food Corporation of India has reported estimated sale price of these damaged stocks as Rs.22.33 crores, Rs. 13.03 crores, Rs 3.63 crores and Rs. 2.92 crores pertaining to 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11(up to January,2011) respectively.

(b): 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. Details of stocks of damaged/ non-issuable foodgrains disposed of during last three years and current year are at Annex II.

(c) & (d): Based on current 4 months requirement of foodgrains allocated under Targetted Public Distribution System(TPDS) and other welfare schemes in consuming States and the highest stock level observed in last three years in procuring States, a storage capacity gap of 150.80 lakh tons has been assessed in 19 States. Besides, a capacity gap of 5.25 lakh tons has been observed in the NE States. Stocks held in CAP storage with FCI during last three years are as under:

Position as on Stocks held in CAP(in lakh tons)

31.3.2008	0.55
31.3.2009	3.01
31.3.2010	9.36

State-wise details of foodgrains stored in Cover and Plinth(CAP) storage during the current year, as reported by FCI are at Annex III.

(e)&(f): Government has taken following steps to create additional storage capacity in the country:

Plan Scheme: A capacity of 138770 tons at an estimated cost of Rs. 133 crores during 11th Plan period (2007-12) is to be created. Out of this, 28760 tons has been created upto 2009-10.

Private Entrepreneurs Guarantee Scheme: To overcome the storage gap in the country, construction of godowns of about 150 lakh tons capacity through CWC, SWCs and private entrepreneurs has been taken up.