

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:359  
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2011  
STORAGE OF FOODGRAINS  
Abdulrahman Shri

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

- (a) the current foodgrains storage capacity in the country, State-wise;
- (b) whether some States have requested the Union Government to transport the foodgrains out of their States in view of the over flowing godowns in these States;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken on their requests;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to construct new godowns or has constructed new godowns for safe storage of foodgrains to ensure food security in the country;
- (e) if so, the details thereof indicating the proposals received by the States and the status of these proposals, State-wise; and
- (f) the steps taken by the Government to expedite the construction of godowns in different parts of the country?

**Answer**

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

(a): The current foodgrain storage capacity as on 15.7.2011 with FCI, State-wise is at Annexure-I.

(b) & (c): Yes, Madam. Some states like Punjab, Haryana, Chhattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh have requested for outward movement of foodgrains from their states. The details of the movements from 2008-09 to 2011-12 (upto June,2011) is at Annexure-II.

(d), (e) & (f): Due to the increased procurement of foodgrains and to reduce the storage in Cover and Plinth (CAP) the Government formulated a Scheme for construction of storage godowns through private entrepreneurs, Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) and State Warehousing Corporations (SWCs). Assessment of additional storage needs under the scheme is based on the overall procurement/consumption and the storage space already available. For the consuming areas, storage capacity is to be created to meet four months requirement of 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.

Based on this analysis and criteria laid down in the scheme, State wise capacity requirement and locations were identified. Under the scheme, the Food Corporation of India would now give a guarantee of ten years for assured hiring to the private entrepreneurs. A capacity of about 152.97 lakh tonnes is to be created in 19 states under the scheme through private entrepreneurs and Central and State Warehousing Corporations. Out of this, tenders have been finalized for creation of storage capacity of 52.32 lakh tonnes by the private entrepreneurs. CWC and SWCs are constructing 5.31 and 15.49 lakh tonnes respectively under the Scheme, out of which a capacity of about 3.5 lakh tonnes has already been completed by CWC/SWCs. The details of the proposals and status, state-wise is at Annexure-III.

To tide over the problem of shortage of storage space, FCI hires storage space from CWC/SWCs/Govt. agencies and private parties etc. Executive Directors (Zones) and General Managers (Region) of FCI have been given full powers for hiring of private godowns for short term usage to store the procured foodgrains as per their requirement if the capacity available with FCI is not sufficient to store the foodgrains.