

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:255  
ANSWERED ON:21.07.2009  
ASSISTANCE FOR COLD STORAGE  
Rajaram Shri Wakchaure Bhausahab

**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has made any assessment of the cold storage facilities in the country and the losses caused to farm produce in the absence of such facilities including in backward and rural areas;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of the Central assistance granted for setting up cold storage facilities in the country and other schemes during each of the last two years and the current year, particularly in backward and rural regions;
- (d) whether some States have not been given Central assistance for this purpose;
- (e) if so, the reasons therefor alongwith the names of such States; and
- (f) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) to (f): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.255 DUE FOR REPLY ON 21-07-2009.

(a) to (f): Yes, Madam. An Expert Committee was constituted by the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation during 1998 to review the cold storages facilities in the country and assess the requirement of additional capacity, modernization & rehabilitation of sick and closed units with a view to minimize the post harvest losses. The estimated loss of foodgrains ranges from 8% to 10% and for fruits and vegetables the loss is estimated between 25% to 30% due to the lack of adequate infrastructure including cold storage. The Government, therefore, launched a scheme on "Capital Investment Subsidy for Construction/Modernization/Expansion of Cold Storage and Storage for Horticulture Produce" in 1999 for implementation through National Horticulture Board (NHB). Under this scheme, credit-linked back-ended subsidy is provided @ 33.33% of the project cost with a maximum ceiling of Rs 60.00 lakh for North Eastern and Himalayan States and @ 25% with maximum limit of Rs 50.00 lakh to other States including rural and backward regions. The Government also launched two Centrally Sponsored Schemes for the development of horticulture viz. "Technology Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture in North Eastern States, Sikkim, Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand" (TMNE) and "National Horticulture Mission" (NHM) under which assistance is also provided for construction of cold storages adopting the same norms as above. The assistance under TMNE is routed through NHB.

The details of Central assistance granted for setting up of cold storage facilities in the country during the last two years and the current year is at Annexure. The States of Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Mizoram, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Sikkim, Tripura and Goa have not availed the benefit of the scheme during the last two years for want of proposals from State Government. Some of the reasons for non-submission of proposals under this scheme are lack of entrepreneurship in the region, inadequate volume of horticulture produce, poor road connectivity and lack of easy availability of credit. The Government have advised the States to avail the benefit of the scheme.