

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2206
ANSWERED ON:21.07.2009
RURAL GODOWNS
Swamygowda Shri N Cheluvaraya Swamy

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of godowns set up under Central Sector Rural Godown Scheme in various parts of the country including Karnataka;
- (b) the number of such godowns proposed to be set up in the country including Karnataka during the year 2009-10; and
- (c) the extent to which these godowns have been helpful to farmers in preventing the post harvest losses of the crops?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

PROF. K.V. THOMAS

(a): The Ministry of Agriculture is implementing a Central Sector Scheme of "Grameen Bhandaran Yojana – (Construction of Rural Godown) w.e.f. 1st April, 2001 through National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development and National Cooperative Development Corporation. Under this scheme, 20691 rural godowns with a capacity of 240.75 lakh MTs have been sanctioned all over the country and subsidy of Rs.553.75 crore has been released upto 31st May, 2009. The physical and financial progress of the scheme is given in Annexures-I & II respectively.

In the State of Karnataka, 2051 rural godowns with a capacity of 15.00 lakh MTs with a subsidy of Rs.44.24 crore have been sanctioned as on 31-05-2009.

(b): It is proposed to create 20.00 lakh MTs storage capacity in the country under the Rural Godown scheme during 2009-10. The Central Sector Scheme of "Grameen Bhandaran Yojana" is a demand driven credit linked scheme. As per the guidelines of the Scheme, the entrepreneur is free to set up a project under the scheme according to his choice anywhere in the country depending upon the economic viability of the project.

(c): The main objectives of the Rural Godown Scheme include creation of scientific storage capacity with allied facilities in rural areas to meet out various requirements of farmers for storing farm produce, processed farm produce, agricultural inputs, etc., and prevention of distress sale by creating the facility of pledge loan and marketing credit. As per the evaluation report of the scheme, the scheme has been generally successful and has been able to meet many of its objectives. Godown owners are predominantly farmers and have benefited from the scheme through reducing post-harvest losses, increasing income through higher price realization and enabling both savings and investment capability.