

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5360

ANSWERED ON:06.09.2011

STORAGE OF FOODGRAINS IN VILLAGES

Haque Shri Sk. Saidul;Singh Rajkumari Ratna;Singh Shri Iyyaraj ;Yadav Shri Ranjan Prasad

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that storage of foodgrains in villages by farmers is a great problem;
- (b) if so, whether due to poor storage facilities, foodgrains is lost by pests, weather etc;
- (c) if so, the estimated loss thereof per year in the country; and
- (d) the steps being taken by the Government to reduce loss of foodgrains due to rats, pests and weather as well as to enable farmers to store grains in villages?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) to (d): The Government is aware of the problems being faced by farmers in storage of foodgrains in villages. While scientific estimates of foodgrain losses due to poor storage facilities are not separately available, a nationwide assessment of study on Post-harvest losses of foodgrains carried out by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (2010), projects a loss between 3.9 percent to 6.1 percent.

The Ministry of Agriculture launched 'Grameen Bhandaran Yojana' in 2001 with the objective to create 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 to prevent distress sale by creating the facility of pledge loan and marketing credit. The scheme is demand driven and subsidy @ 25% is provided to all categories of farmers, agricultural graduates, cooperatives and CWCs/SWCs. In case of North Eastern States/hilly areas and SC/ST entrepreneurs and their cooperatives and women farmers, subsidy is provided @ 33.33 percent. 15% of the capital cost of the project is provided to all other categories of individuals, companies and corporations etc. The scheme has now been made more farmer friendly by allowing subsidy for smaller godowns of 50 MT size in general and 25 MT in hilly areas.

As on 31st July, 2011, 25302 godowns having a capacity of 288.02 lakh tonnes with a subsidy release of Rs.751.34 crores have been sanctioned by NABARD & NCDC all over the country.