GOVERNMENT OF INDIA AGRICULTURE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2339 ANSWERED ON:16.08.2011 REMUNERATION FOR AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE Choudhry Smt. Shruti

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the farmers in various States including Haryana are not getting proper Remuneration for the agricultural produce due to the lack of storage facilities in kharif and rabi season and its impact is on the MSP in the market;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (c) the steps being taken by the Government to ensure storage facilities and proper remuneration for the farmers for each produce?

Answer

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

(a) to (c): The Government ensures remunerative price for the major agricultural produce through Minimum Support Price (MSP). The MSP is ensured through procurement by central, state and cooperative agencies in the states including Haryana.

State governments have been alerted from time to time, including Haryana, to make adequate arrangements to ensure MSP to farmers.

The Government has formulated a Scheme for construction of storage godowns in the states through public private partnership. Under the Scheme, the Food Corporation of India (FCI) gives a guarantee of ten years for assured hiring to the private entrepreneurs. Under the Scheme a capacity of about 3.5 lakh tonnes has been created. In addition, to tide over the problem of shortage of storage space, FCI has been authorized to hire private godowns for short term usage to store the procured foodgrains as per their requirement.

In order to enable small farmers to avoid distress sale by extending their holding capacity and sell their produce at remunerative prices, Government is implementing Construction of Rural Godowns Scheme. Similarly, under National Horticulture Mission (NHM) there are programmes for creation of infrastructure for post-harvest management and marketing.