

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1012

ANSWERED ON:20.03.2012

COLD STORAGES

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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether tonnes of fruits, vegetables and foodgrains perished due to nonavailability of cold storage;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) the total number of cold storages in the country at present, State-wise;
- (d) whether any scheme is under consideration of the Government to increase the number of cold storage in the country including Kerala;
- (e) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (f) whether the Government proposes to allow external commercial borrowing to set up cold storages; and (g) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) to (e): Post Harvest losses to the extent of 5.8-18.0% in fruits and vegetable category and to the extent of 2.8 - 10% in food grains category have been reported by Central Institute of Post Harvest Engineering and Technology (CIPHET) while conducting a comprehensive quantitative assessment of storage losses of agriculture produce at various levels.

To reduce post harvest losses, presently, Government of India implements National Horticulture Mission (NHM) and National Horticulture Board (NHB) schemes under which credit linked back-ended subsidy @ 40% of project cost in general areas and 55% in hilly and scheduled areas are available for cold storage, CA/MA storage, refer vans and other post harvest infrastructure in the country. Under Horticulture Mission for North Eastern and Himalayan States (HMNEH) scheme credit linked back- ended subsidy @ 55% of project cost is available for these components for North Eastern and Himalayan States. Kerala is covered under NHM and NHB.

Total number of cold storages in the country as on 31.03.2011 is 6156. The State-wise details are annexed.

(f) & (g): As per extant policy, External Commercial Borrowing (ECB) is permitted investment to cold storage or cold room facility, and farm level pre-cooling.

These details have been published under RBI's Master Circular on External Commercial Borrowings (ECB) and Trade Credits dated July 01, 2011 updated on January 20, 2012.