

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7570
ANSWERED ON:22.05.2012
COLD STORAGE UNDER NHM
Mahto Shri Baidyanath Prasad

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of cold storages set up in the country including Bihar during the last three years alongwith the funds and subsidy being provided under the National Horticulture Mission (NHM);
- (b) whether the Government would launch any awareness campaign to speed the construction of cold storage in the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether construction of cold storage has benefitted the farmers in selling potato and fruits at higher prices; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof during the last three years?

Answer

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

(a): The Department of Agriculture & Cooperation is implementing National Horticulture Mission (NHM) scheme which includes credit linked back ended subsidy for setting up of cold storage. Under the scheme subsidy @ 40% in general areas and @ 55% in hilly and scheduled areas of capital cost for a capacity of 5000 MT is available for those projects which adopted new technologies as per technical standards issued by this Department. Under the scheme an amount of Rs.325.91 crore was provided for setting up of 451 cold storages in the country during the last three years out of which an amount of Rs.14.31 crore was provided as assistance for creation of 28 cold storages in Bihar.

(b) & (c): The NHM has the provision for holding of seminars, conferences, workshops, exhibitions, Kisan Melas and Horticulture shows by the State Horticulture Missions which are being regularly held at State and District level. Further, State Horticulture Missions are advertising the programmes of the mission and inviting applications for availing assistance under the scheme regularly.

(d) & (e): Construction of cold storages helps in preservation, maintaining quality and extending shelf life of perishable horticulture produce after harvest including potato and fruits. The setting up of cold storages has benefitted farmers in realizing higher prices than that of peak season prices.