

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:747
ANSWERED ON:14.08.2012
COLD STORAGES
Jawale Shri Haribhau Madhav

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of cold storages in the State of Maharashtra;
- (b) whether all the districts in the State do not have adequate facility of cold storages and exorbitant charges are taken from farmers for using the cold storages;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government for setting up of more cold storages in each district in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT)

(a): As per Department of Agriculture & Co-operation under the Ministry of Agriculture there are 484 cold storages as on 31.03.2011 in the State of Maharashtra.

(b) to (d): Ministry of Food Processing Industries does not maintain data on district-wise cold storages in the country. However, a study conducted by the National Spot Exchange Ltd. (NSEL) in December, 2010 analyzed production, consumption and shelf life pattern of major fruits and vegetables. The Study has estimated cold storage requirements of 61.13 million tonnes in the country including the State of Maharashtra.

Cold storages are a de-regulated activity with private sector management and control. This Ministry does not regulate / maintain data on fee / charge for providing cold storage facilities to farmers.

(e): Ministry of Food Processing Industries implements the Scheme of Integrated Cold Chain, Value Addition & Preservation Infrastructure (part of scheme of Infrastructure Development) and under which it provides financial assistance in the form of grant-in-aid @ 50% of the total cost of plant and machinery and technical civil works in general areas, and @ 75% of the total cost of plant and machinery and technical civil works in difficult areas including North Eastern states subject to a maximum of Rs.10.00 crore for strengthening and value addition of cold chain infrastructure.

Other Government of India organizations like National Horticulture Mission (NHM), National Horticulture Board (NHB), Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) and State Governments also provide assistance for cold storages under their respective schemes.