

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:231  
ANSWERED ON:28.08.2012  
STORAGE CAPACITY  
Bais Shri Ramesh

**Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:**

- (a) the estimated shortage of foodgrains, pulses and edible oil during the current year in view of the drought like condition;
- (b) the details of the present and additional storage/warehouse facilities needed for storage of foodgrains, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Swaminathan Commission had made any suggestions regarding storage requirement;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the time by which the Government is going to implement those recommendations?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a), (b), (c), (d) & (e) OF THE STARRED QUESTION NO.231 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 28th AUGUST, 2012 IN THE LOK SABHA

(a): The First Advance Estimates of production for Kharif crops 2012-13 are scheduled for release in September, 2012. The estimates of total production of agricultural crops for the whole year (covering Kharif as well as Rabi crops) will be available in Second Advance Estimates for 2012-13 scheduled for release in February, 2013. Thus, the shortage in production of agricultural commodities e.g. foodgrains, pulses and edible oils/oilseeds during the year can be reliably assessed only on availability of Second Advance Estimates for 2012-13.

As per the preliminary trends on area coverage of Kharif crops for 2012-13, the delayed/deficient monsoon in some parts of the country has adversely affected sowing operations in the current Kharif season and the area coverage under rice, coarse cereals, pulses, foodgrains and oilseeds during the year is reported to be marginally lower than the last year. This loss in area coverage and productivity may have some adverse impact on Kharif production of above crops in 2012-13. However, in view of 760.29 lakh tonnes foodgrains in the Central Pool as on 01.08.2012, no shortage is anticipated. As for pulses and edible oil, the production has been generally lower than their domestic requirement and the shortfall is met through imports.

(b): The total storage capacity available with the Food Corporation of India (FCI) [owned and hired] as on 1.8.2012 was 372.79 lakh MTs. However, total storage capacity available with FCI and State agencies is 714.14 lakh MTs against the current central pool stocks of 760 lakh MTs in the form of wheat and rice. During procurement season, stock of foodgrains do exceed the available storage capacity for which temporary arrangements are made by temporary storage of wheat under cover and plinth. To increase the covered storage capacity, the Government had formulated a Private Entrepreneur Guarantee (PEG) Scheme in 2008. Under this Scheme, a capacity of 181.08 lakh tonnes is being created in 19 States through private entrepreneurs and Central and State Warehousing Corporations. The State-wise details are at Annexure.

(c)& (d): No, Sir. The National Commission on Farmers (NCF) set up under the chairmanship of Dr. M.S. Swaminathan has not made any direct suggestions regarding storage requirements in its five reports including the Revised Draft National Policy for Farmers.

(e): Does not arise