

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2782

ANSWERED ON:11.12.2012

STORAGE CAPACITY

Ju Dev Shri Dilip Singh

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the Food Corporation of India (FCI) and the Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) do not have adequate infrastructure and manpower facilities required for safe storage of foodgrains;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the corrective steps taken in this regard;

(c) whether the Government proposes to encourage private participation in augmentation of storage/infrastructure facilities in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): No, Madam. The storage capacity, Covered and Cover and Plinth (CAP) available with the Food Corporation of India including capacity hired from Central Warehousing Corporation was 374.55 lakh MTs as on 31.10.2012. The storage capacity both covered and CAP, available with the State agencies for storage of Central stock of foodgrains was 341.35 lakh MTs. Thus, a total of about 716 lakh MTs of storage capacity is available alongwith necessary manpower for storage of Central pool stock of foodgrains against a stock of 695.29 lakhs MTs as on 31.10.2012.

(c) & (d): Due to the increased procurement of foodgrains, the Government has formulated the Private Entrepreneurs Guarantee(PEG) Scheme for construction of covered storage godowns through private entrepreneurs, Central Warehousing Corporation(CWC) and State Warehousing Corporations(SWCs). Under the PEG Scheme, FCI gives guarantee for the storage charges to the private investors for 10 years. A capacity of 181.08 lakh MTs has been approved for construction of godowns in 19 States under PEG Scheme. Further a capacity of 20 lakh MTs will also be constructed in Silos within the overall storage requirements of FCI with private participation.