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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2905 ANSWERED ON:11.12.2012 STORAGE FACILITIES

Adityanath Shri Yogi; Chauhan Shri Sanjay Singh; Choudhary Shri Bhudeo; Das Shri Khagen; Ganpatrao Shri Jadhav Prataprao; Haque Shri Sk. Saidul; Jawale Shri Haribhau Madhav; Kaswan Shri Ram Singh; Kumar Shri Vishwa Mohan; Laguri Shri Yashbant Narayan Singh; Majhi Shri Pradeep Kumar; Muttemwar Shri Vilas Baburao; Nagar Shri Surendra Singh; Nagorao Shri Dudhgaonkar Ganeshrao; Panda Shri Prabodh; Pandey Saroj; Patel Shri Kishanbhai Vestabhai; Patil Shri A.T. Nana; Premdas Shri ; Rama Devi Smt. ; Ramasubbu Shri S.; Ray Shri Rudramadhab ; Sainuji Shri Kowase Marotrao; Sampath Shri Anirudhan; Sharma Shri Jagdish; Singh Rajkumari Ratna; Singh Shri Mahabali; Singh Shri Ratan; Sinh Dr. Sanjay; Siricilla Shri Rajaiah; Solanki Shri Makhansingh; Sukur Shri Jadhav Baliram; Swamygowda Shri N Cheluvaraya Swamy; Tandon Shri Lal Ji; Tarai Shri Bibhu Prasad; Yadav Shri Ranjan Prasad

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

- (a) whether the Government has received reports/complaints regarding poor maintenance of Godowns, infestation of pests and rodents, unsafe storage of foodgrains and violation of Government directives in this regard during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the corrective steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard indicating the number of complaints received, foodgrains stocks held in open/unsafe storage and damaged during the said period, Statewise;
- (c) whether the Union Government has directed the State Governments to prepare their own schemes for creation of storage capacity under Public Private Partnership mode to meet their storage needs; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the response of the States thereto?

Answer

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

(a)& (b): Food Corporation of India has informed that no complaint regarding poor maintenance of stocks, unsafe storage of foodgrains and violation of Government directives in FCI has been received. However, during periodical inspection of preservation of stocks lying with State agencies, maintenance of stocks have been reported to be not upto the mark with the result following quantity has become upgradable/Nonissuable in Punjab & Haryana Regions which are not readily dispatch-worthy and require segregation, upgradation and fumigation etc. by State agencies. The details are as under:

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Region Crop Year Upgradable stock of Non-issuable stock
    State Agencies as of State Agencies
    on 31.10.12 as on 31.10.12
    (Lakh Tons) (Lakh Tons)

Punjab 2008-09 & older 0.17 0.27
2009-10 0.68 0.09
2010-11 0.89 0.01
2011-12 0.33 0.00
Total 2.07 0.37

Haryana 2009-10 0.40 0.05
2010-11 0.16 0.02
2011-12 0.01 0.00
Total 0.57 0.07
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Region-wise details of the complaints received and action taken are at Annexure-I. Steps taken by the Government for safe storage of foodgrains are at Annexure-II.

Region-wise stock position in Cover and plinth (CAP)/Open storage (Katcha & Pucca) during the last three years and current year is at Annexure-IIIA, 1MB, MIC & HID respectively. Region-wise details of foodgrains accrued as damaged/ non-issuable foodgrains with FCI during last three years and current year are at Annexure-IV.

(c) & (d): Government of India has suggested to the State Governments to draw up their own scheme under the Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode for construction of godowns on the lines of the Private Entrepreneurs Guarantee (PEG) scheme formulated by the Government of India to meet their immediate storage requirements through Private Entrepreneurs and /or Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) and State Warehousing Corporations (SWCs) and State Government agencies on a similar guarantee basis.

Under PEG scheme, FCI gives guarantee for the storage charges to the private investors for ten years. However, such a scheme if drawn up by the State Governments for construction of godowns required for their own storage requirements will have no financial commitment by the Government of India. The State Governments have not furnished any response regarding drawing up a scheme on the lines of the PEG scheme of the Government of India.