

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:202

ANSWERED ON:12.03.2013

POST HARVEST LOSSES

Jakhar Shri Badri Ram ;Saroj Shri Tufani

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a large percentage of foodgrains gets damaged during post harvest operations in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to adopt the latest scientific methods in preservation of foodgrains during post harvest operations;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to transfer these scientific techniques to the farmers through its Krishi Vigyan Kendras?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

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

STATEMENT IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) to (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 202 TO BE ANSWERED ON 12/03/2013 REGARDING "POST HARVEST LOSSES"

(a)&(b) According to the survey conducted in 106 districts of India with respect to 46 crops and commodities during the period 2005-2007, the overall post-harvest losses in selected cereals, pulses and oilseeds were observed to be in the range of 3.9-6 %, 4.3-6.1 % and 2.8-10.1 %, respectively.

(c)&(d) The Food Corporation of India and Central Warehousing Corporation stores food grains in its warehouses, bulk storage facilities and CAP (cover and plinth) by following laid down methods of preservation. Periodical quality control operations (aeration, fumigation with approved chemicals malathion, dichlorvos, delta methrine, aluminium phosphide) are carried out in which fortnightly inspections of the stocks are undertaken to keep a close watch on the quality of the food grains.

The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation has implemented a central sector scheme named 'Rural Godown Scheme'. Since inception of the scheme from 1/4/2001 a total number of 30574 godowns having a total capacity of 383.62 Lakh MT with a subsidy release of Rs.937.30 crore have been sanctioned.

(e) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research has created a network of 632 Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVK) which regularly conduct training programmes, on-farm trials and frontline demonstrations of new scientific techniques to the farmers on reduction of post-harvest losses of food grains.