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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2509 ANSWERED ON:12.03.2013 STORAGE CAPACITY

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

- (a) the quantum of foodgrains lost/damaged due to storage in open, rains and other natural calamities and transportation during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (b) whether the Government is providing any assistance to the States for creating storage space or to engage the private sector for the purpose;
- (c) if so, the details and the outcome thereof indicating the funds allocated and utilised and the storage space created/proposed to be created during the last three years and the ensuing year;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to allow Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in storage capacity creation; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with the mechanism put in place to regularly monitor and review the policy and inflow of FDI in this sector?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

(PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

- (a): Details of central pool foodgrains damaged/ became non-issuable during the last three years and the current year due to various reasons are at Annexure I.
- (b)&(c): The Government gives Grants-in-aid to North East (NE) States and the State Government of Jammu & Kashmir for creation of their own storage capacity. In last three years and the current year, a total amount of Rs. 31.02 crore has been released towards creation of proposed storage capacity of about 50,000 tons. The Government has also finalised a Plan scheme especially for the North-East, for creation of an additional storage capacity of 5.40 lakh tons through the Food Corporation of India (FCI).

The Government is also implementing the Private Entrepreneurs Guarantee (PEG) Scheme to augment the covered storage capacity through private entrepreneurs, Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) and State Warehousing Corporations (SWCs). A capacity of about 197 lakh tons has been approved till 28.2.2013 for construction of godowns in 19 States, out of which a capacity of 141.46 lakh tons has been sanctioned for construction. The FCI guarantees to hire godowns constructed under this scheme for a period of ten years, thereby ensuring for the investors, a fair return on the investment. A capacity of 46.88 lakh tons has been completed as detailed at Annexure-II.

- (d): No, Madam.
- (e): Does not arise.