

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:271
ANSWERED ON:06.08.2013
SHORTAGE OF COLD STORAGEES
Kumar Shri Kaushalendra

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that small farmers are unable to store their agricultural produce so as to get remunerative price for it;
- (b) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to provide them scientific storage facility for their produce and reimbursement;
- (c) whether a capital investment subsidy programme for rural storage scheme has been started for construction and renovation of the godowns of rural areas; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR)

(a) to (d): Recognising the farmers' need for storage to prevent compulsive sale at low prices and distress sale, the Government of India, Ministry of Agriculture launched a Central Sector Scheme 'Grameen Bhandaran Yojana' w.e.f. 01.04.2001. The objective of the scheme is to create scientific storage with allied facilities in rural areas to meet various requirements of farmers for storing their farm produce till the market prices are favourable and to prevent distress sale by creating the facility of pledge loan and marketing credit.

The project for construction of rural godown can be taken up by various categories of beneficiaries to whom capital assistance under the scheme is provided by way of back ended subsidy. Subsidy @ 25% of project cost is provided to all categories of farmers, agriculture graduates, cooperatives & Central Warehousing Corporation/State Warehousing Corporations; @ 15% of project cost to individuals, companies and corporations and @ 33.33% of project cost in case of North-Eastern States/hilly areas, women farmers & SC/ST entrepreneurs and their cooperatives.

The scheme has been revised and made more attractive by allowing assistance to projects upto maximum capacity of 25,000 MT in North Eastern States with maximum ceiling on subsidy @ Rs.3.333 crores and upto 30,000 MT for other than North Eastern States with maximum ceiling on subsidy @ Rs. 3 crores.

Since the inception of the scheme w.e.f. 1/4/2001 and up to 30 June, 2013, 31679 godowns having a capacity of 418.37 lakh MT with a subsidy release of Rs.1115.53 crores have been sanctioned by NABARD & NCDC all over the country.

State-wise details are annexed herewith.