

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:117

ANSWERED ON:13.08.2013

STORAGE CAPACITY FOR FOODGRAINS .

Kumar Shri Vishwa Mohan;Rao Shri Nama Nageswara

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

- (a) whether the Government is facing an ironical situation where thousands of tonnes of foodgrains go waste due to shortage of storage facilities on one hand and prevalence of hunger and malnutrition in various areas/regions of the country on the other hand;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto indicating the quantum and value of foodgrains procured and damaged along with the total capacity of covered and cover and plinth storage capacity available along with the percentage utilised during each of the last three years and the current year, State and agency-wise;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to construct new godowns and improve the existing ones;
- (d) if so, the details thereof indicating the targets fixed and funds allocated for the purpose; and
- (e) the steps taken to encourage private participation in the creation of storage facility?

Answer

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

(a), (b), (c), (d) & (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF THE STARRED QUESTION NO. 117 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 13.8.2013 IN THE LOK SABHA

(a) : No, Madam.

(b): Does not arise.

(c), (d) & (e): In order to augment storage capacity and to construct godowns, Government has formulated a scheme called Private Entrepreneurs Guarantee (PEG) Scheme for construction of covered storage capacity through Private Entrepreneurs, Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) & State Warehousing Corporations (SWCs). Under this Scheme, storage capacity is created by private parties, CWC, SWCs and other State Agencies for guaranteed hiring by FCI. Under PEG scheme, a capacity of 203.76 lakh tons has been approved for construction of godowns at various locations in 19 States. Out of this, a capacity of 145.38 lakh tons has been sanctioned/allotted to private investors, CWC and SWCs. A capacity of 73.02 lakh tons has already been completed. Further, as per the target, another 57 lakh tons capacity is to be added by March 2014 under this scheme. For ensuring long-term scientific storage, the Government has also approved construction of 20 lakh tons of storage capacity in silos within the overall sanctioned capacity of the PEG Scheme through the Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode.

FCI does not release any fund or provide financial support for construction of godowns under PEG scheme. Rent /storage charges as approved by State Level Committee (SLC)/High Level Committee (HLC) is paid on monthly basis after taking over the completed godowns. The construction cost is borne by investors and FCI will pay guaranteed hiring charges for this storage capacity, for 10 years in case of private investors and 9 years in case of CWC, SWC and other State agencies.

An Action Plan to upgrade the physical infrastructure of all the godowns to bring them to well defined acceptable National Standards has been framed. 95 depots have been identified to be upgraded during the financial year 2013-14. The process of upgradation includes replacement of outlived ACC/CGI sheets roofing with the pre coated profile sheets, replacement of damaged bituminous roads with cement concrete roads, resurfacing of worn-out bituminous surface of roads and improvement of boundary walls etc. The details of budget allocated for upgradation is as under:

- i. Upgradation of depots except cement concrete road - Rs.84 crores.
- ii. Replacement of damaged bituminous with CC road - Rs.75 crores.

In addition, under the Plan Scheme there is a proposal to augment 6,10,860 tons capacity Food Grain Godown by FCI during 12th Five Year Plan (2012-17). This includes 5,34,640 tons alone in North-East areas including Sikkim and 76,220 tons capacity in the

areas other than North-East.