

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:34  
ANSWERED ON:06.08.2013  
LOSS OF FOODGRAINS  
Ray Shri Rudramadhab ;Upadhyay Seema

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

- (a) whether foodgrains have been lost due to pilferage, during transit and damage due to unsafe storage and shortage of storage space;
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating the quantum and value of foodgrains lost along with the total storage space available and foodgrains procured and stored during each of the last three years and the current year; and
- (c) the steps taken to check such wastage along with the success achieved therein during the said period?

**Answer**

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

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF THE STARRED QUESTION NO 34 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 6.8.2013 IN THE LOK SABHA

(a) and (b): Considering large volumes of procurement of foodgrains under Central Pool, some losses may occur during storage due to pilferage/ thefts, loss of moisture during prolonged storage, spillage, pest infestation, birds, rodents, exposure to rains, floods, during transportation, negligence on the part of concerned persons in taking precautionary measures etc. Nine cases of theft and pilferage of 32 tons of foodgrains have been reported during the last three years, as under:

Year No .of Cases Qty.(in tons) Amount (in lakh Rs.)

2010-11 03 9.5 0.89

2011-12 04 14.1 3.76

2012-13 02 8.1 1.53

The quantity and value of foodgrains lost during Storage and Transit during the last three years are at Annexure I. Available storage capacity, procurement and stock position under Central Pool during the last three years and current year is at Annexure II.

(c) In order to curb the theft and pilferage in Central Pool stocks, various steps have been taken like installation of barbed wires fencing of boundary walls, provision of street lights in the godowns/complexes, proper locking of the sheds, deployment of Home Guards, Special Police Officers etc. besides Food Corporation of India (FCI) security staff and also deployment of State Armed Police at vulnerable depots / godowns in the naxal prone areas. Security Inspection as well as surprise checks of the depots are being conducted from time to time at various levels to detect and plug any security lapses. FIRs have also been lodged with the Police where pilferage has come to notice. Apart from this, departmental action including recovery of loss has been resorted to act as deterrent.

For safety of foodgrains, Government has issued instructions regarding safe storage of foodgrains to Food Corporation of India and State Government to avoid damage in Central Pool Stocks from time to time. The precautionary and remedial measures mandated to be followed by FCI and State Government agencies are at Annexure-III. With the efforts made, the quantum of foodgrains lost/damaged has been kept at bare minimum level inspite of increase in procurement and stocks of FCI over the last three years.