

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3777

ANSWERED ON:18.02.2014

INTERMEDIATE STORAGE

Anandan Shri K.Murugeshan;Sugumar Shri K.

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to setup intermediate grain storage facilities at block level in each State for the implementation of the National Food Security Act and has directed the States to create such facilities with a capacity of holding four months PDS supply;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the response of the States thereto;
- (c) whether this move is aimed at ensuring steady flow of foodgrains under the National Food Security Act and to prevent damages;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the said storages are proposed to be constructed under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

- (a) Yes, madam. Government of India has been constantly requesting the States to create suitable capacities at the Block/Taluka level sufficient to stock at least three months requirement of foodgrains for their catchment.
- (b) It has been suggested that the States access financial resources under Grameen Bhandaran Yojana in which capital investment subsidy is provided for construction of rural godowns. Furthermore, the Government of India also provides Plan Funds as Grants-in-Aid to the State governments of the North Eastern Region and Jammu & Kashmir for constructing Intermediate Godowns. As on date Rs. 44.13 crore has been released against a total of 75 projects costing Rs. 71.05 crores, aimed at creating 78,055 MT of Intermediate Storage capacity in North Eastern States and Jammu & Kashmir. The Government of India has also allowed the construction of intermediate godowns under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGA).
- (c) & (d) The initiatives with respect to intermediate storage are to facilitate storage and uninterrupted and steady flow of foodgrains under National Food Security Act.
- (e) & (f) The Government of India has facilitated the construction of intermediate Godowns under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGA) by effecting necessary amendments in the Act. Clause (xvc) has been inserted in Schedule I of the said Act and provides that modern and scientific Godowns can be constructed under MGNREGA for implementing the provisions of the National Food Security Act, 2013.