

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3923
ANSWERED ON:18.02.2014
PROCUREMENT OF WHEAT AND RICE
Singh Shri Ganesh

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

- (a) whether the procurement of wheat and rice in States/Union Territories is undertaken keeping in view the available capacity of godowns which are in good condition and are Government approved;
- (b) If so, the reasons for wastage of foodgrains due to unsafe storage indicating the available capacity, procurement and wastage of foodgrains during each of the last three years and the current year; and
- (c) the steps taken to check such losses?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) Procurement of foodgrains for central pool and availability capacity of godowns are not directly related. As per the existing procurement policy farmers have the option to sell their produce to Food Corporation of India/ State Agencies at the Minimum Support Price or in the open market as is advantages to them. Government purchases all the foodgrains conforming to the prescribed specification brought to the purchase centers by the farmers.

Details of procurement of wheat and rice is at Annexure-I, Annexure-II.

Details of storage capacity available with FCI and state agencies during the last three years and the current year is as follows:

(Fig. in Lakh MT)

| As on | Storage Capacity with FCI | Total | Storage capacity with | Grand Total |
|-------|---------------------------|-------|-----------------------|-------------|
| | state agencies | | | |

| | Owned | Hired | | | |
|--|-------|-------|--|--|--|
|--|-------|-------|--|--|--|

| | | | | | |
|----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 31.03.10 | 154.77 | 133.59 | 288.36 | 295.50 | 583.86 |
|----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|

| | | | | | |
|----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 31.03.11 | 156.07 | 160.03 | 316.10 | 291.32 | 607.42 |
|----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|

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|----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 31.03.12 | 156.40 | 179.64 | 336.04 | 341.35 | 677.39 |
|----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|

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|----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 31.03.13 | 156.33 | 221.02 | 377.35 | 354.28 | 731.63 |
|----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|

31.01.14 156.39 218.14 374.53 379.18 753.71

There are various reason for wastage of foodgrains and some of the main reasons are as follows:-

(i) Due to natural calamities like cyclone/flood and heavy rains

(ii) Storage damage

(iii) Transit damages

(iv) In some cases due to negligence of officials/ officers, for which suitable disciplinary action against defaulters, where ever found guilty, are invariably taken.

Quantum of Non-Issuable foodgrains for last three years and current year (upto Dec'2013) is as under:

Year Quantity of Non-Issuable (In LMT)

2010-11 0.063

2011-12 0.033

2012-13 0.031

2013-14 0.230

(up to Dec,2013)

(c) Details of steps taken to check wastage and losses of foodgrains are at Annexure-III.