

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3497

ANSWERED ON:11.08.2015

Wastage of Food

Ajmal Shri Sirajuddin

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

- (a) the total quantity of foodgrains damaged at different post harvest stages during the last three years and the current year, item and year-wise;
- (b) whether any targets have been set for reducing the wastage from the present level;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken/proposed to be taken to achieve the said targets; and
- (d) the funds allocated, disbursed and utilised for undertaking activities such as procurement of gunny bags construction of storage and development/use of other post harvest technology to check such wastage?

Answer

MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN)

(a): Year-wise and item-wise quantity of foodgrains damaged at different post harvest stages is not maintained. However, the quantity of the foodgrains accrued as damage/non-issuable in FCI during last three years and the current year is as under:

Year Quantity of damaged / non-issuable

(in lakh tons) Percentage (%) against the off-take from FCI

2012-13 0.03 0.01

2013-14 0.25 0.05

2014-15 0.19 0.04

2015-16

(Upto June 2015) 0.02 0.02

...2/-

...2...

(b)&(c): No specific targets have been fixed for reducing damaged foodgrains under central pool. However, an action plan has been drawn to keep damages to bare minimum which includes:

(i) A decision has been taken to liquidate old stocks. Entire quantity of issuable foodgrains of crop year 2012-13 has been liquidated and 56.15% of rice stocks of crop year 2013-14 have been issued.

(ii) Instruction have been issued that wheat procured Under Relaxed Specifications (URS) during RMS 2015-16 is to be issued on over-riding priority irrespective of FIFO principle.

(iii) Stocks of wheat are not to be stored on unscientific (kacha) plinths.

(iv) Damage Monitoring Cells have been setup at District, Regional and Zonal Level to monitor quality of stock and reduce damages.

(d): The expenditure incurred on procurement of fair average quality foodgrains under central pool, its safe storage and efficient distribution is released as subsidy to FCI and DCP (Decentralized Procurement) States. A statement indicating the subsidy released to FCI and various DCP States (for both rice as well as wheat) during the last three years and current year is at Annex.
