

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4826
ANSWERED ON:12.08.2014
FOOD REFORMS
Jayadevan Shri C. N.

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to introduce reforms in food management and distribution to fight subsidies and inflation; and
(b) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB PATIL DANVE)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. Government has taken a number of steps to reform food management and control inflation in the country. FCI is upgrading its godowns to ensure safe storage of foodgrains. The older stocks have been issued and liquidated on priority and at present the stocks available with FCI are of last two crop years only. Laboratory and training structure is continuously upgraded to strengthen the quality control mechanism and to monitor the quality of foodgrains at the time of procurement, storage and distribution so as to avoid damage to foodgrains. States are encouraged to adopt Decentralised Procurement (DCP) system to maximize procurement and to ensure better reach of MSP to farmers. Select godowns have been identified for mechanization of handling operations. Under Private entrepreneur Guarantee Scheme (PEG) Government has created a storage capacity of 120.30 lakh tonnes upto 30.06.2014 in various locations in 19 states for proper storage of foodgrains procured for central pool. For storage modernization, the Government has also approved construction of 20 lakh tonnes of storage capacity in silos. End to end computerization of the Targeted Public Distribution is being undertaken as one of the reforms stipulated under the National Food Security Act 2013.

Details of the steps taken to control inflation in foodgrain items are at Annexure.