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Title: Need to supply waste food grains of Food Corporation of India to the poultries in Namakkal, Tamil Nadu.

*SHRI P.R. SUNDARAM (NAMAKKAL): Hon'ble Chairman Sir. I thank you for giving me an opportunity for raising an important issue pertaining to my Namakkal constituency. At the outset I wholeheartedly thank Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu and permanent General Secretary of AIADMK Dr. *Puratchiththalaivi* Amma for making me a Member of Parliament representing Namakkal parliamentary constituency. I now wish to raise an important issue. Agriculture and agriculture related industry remain as the backbone of our economy and poultry farming is also important. Namakkal and adjoining areas occupy the first place in the production of eggs of chicken in the country as 3 crore eggs are being produced every day by these poultry farms. Eggs are sent to different places of the country and foreign countries. Due to price rise every year, the price of fodder keeps on increasing and as a result of this the poultry farmers face huge losses. Many poultry farms have been closed and lakhs of labourers have lost their livelihood. Today the House has debated about price rise in detail. Food grains like broken rice, wheat, maize, etc., that are wasted in the warehouses of Food Corporation of India, should be provided to poultry farmers at subsidized prices. Food grains thus wasted create huge losses to the government exchequer. Hon'ble Supreme Court had urged the Union government to control wastage of food grains in the warehouses of FCI. In 2003-04, unusable and waste food grains from FCI to the tune of 10,000 tonnes were provided by the Union government to common people at subsidized prices. Thereafter this procedure was not followed. Around 90% of eggs that are being exported from India to foreign countries are produced from Namakkal. Due to this the Union government earns a lot of foreign revenue. I therefore urge upon the Union government, through this august House, to provide unusable and wasted food grains from FCI warehouses to poultry farmers at subsidized rates so as to benefit them.

* English translation of the Speech originally delivered in Tamil