

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, COOPERATION AND FARMERS WELFARE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3774
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 16TH JULY, 2019

COLD STORAGE FOR POTATOES

3774. SHRI SUBRAT PATHAK:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any scheme for establishing warehouses/cold storages for storage of potatoes in Kannauj district which is a leading district among the top potato production districts in Uttar Pradesh;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to take special steps in Kannauj district of Uttar Pradesh for safeguarding the interests of potato growers whose excess produce got rotten in the absence of cold storage and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to set up any food processing factory in Kannauj keeping in view the excessive production of potatoes in the district and if so, the time by which it is likely to be set up; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) & (b): Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW) under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) scheme is extending financial assistance for taking up various activities related to development of horticulture including post harvest management. Credit linked back ended subsidy of 35% of the project cost in general areas and 50% in case of hilly and schedule areas is available for creation of post-harvest management infrastructure which includes cold storage for perishables including potatoes. The component is demand/ entrepreneur driven from entrepreneurs, private companies, cooperatives, farmers groups etc.

As per the report from State Government, during the year 2018-19, Kannauj district produced 1022010 MT potato from an area of 46455 hectare. There are 126 Cold Storage in private sector with capacity of 13.05 lakh MT in Kannauj, out of which 11.09 lakh MT produce was stored in cold storage. As such, Kannauj district has more storage capacity than production and there is no report of potato rotting due to shortage of storage space.

(c) & (d): Ministry of Food Processing Industries have launched Operation Greens Scheme – a scheme for integrated development of Tomato, Onion and Potato (TOP) crops. This scheme provides Price Stabilization Measures as short term measure under which, during glut situation, 50% of cost of transportation and 50% of cost of hiring appropriate storage facilities are being provided as subsidy at the time of harvest. Further, the scheme envisages setting up of Integrated Value Chain Development Projects as a long-term strategy, which include components like Capacity building of FPOs, Quality production, Post-harvest processing facilities, Agri-logistics, Marketing/ consumption points. The Scheme provides for setting up of pilot projects in selected 3 to 4 clusters for each TOP crop in major producing States for development of integrated value chain, with the grant-in-aid at the rate of 50% (70% for FPOs) of the eligible project cost in all areas, subject to maximum ₹ 50 crore per project.

Six districts in Uttar Pradesh, including Kannauj have been selected as identified clusters for setting up of integrated value chain development of potato after consultation with the State Government.

Further, State Government is providing 10 percent additional assistance for Mega Food Park Projects costing more than Rs.50.00 crore. Under this scheme, State is also providing interest subvention to food processing industries.
