

Storage of Foodgrains

†192. SHRI KHAN GHUFRAN ZAHIDI : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering any alternative arrangement to deal with the problem of storage of foodgrains in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof together with the storage capacity at present in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI U.V. KRISHNAM RAJU) : (a) in July, 2000, the Government of India announced National Policy on handling, storage & transportation of foodgrains. This Policy envisages private sector participation in management of foodgrains under Build-Own-Operate (BOO) scheme by development of bulk foodgrains handling storage & transportation.

(b) Storage of foodgrains is done by different agencies, viz., the Food Corporation of India, the Central Warehousing Corporation and State Warehousing Corporations. The owned storage capacity available with these agencies is as under :—

Agency	Storage Capacity (in lakh MT)
FCI	151.59 (as on 31-5-2002)
CWC	74.59 (as on 31-5-2002)
SWCs	134.46 (as on 30-4-2002)

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.