

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHRIRAM CHAUHAN):

(a) and (b) Exact quantum of foodgrain losses during post harvest period at farm level due to insects, rodents, moisture, birds, micro-organisms etc. is not known. However, a Committee headed by Dr. V G Panse, in its report submitted in 1968, had estimated annual post harvest losses in the foodgrains in various stages at 9.33%. These included losses during threshing (1.68%), transportation (0.15%), processing (0.92%), rodents (2.50%) birds (0.85%), insects (2.55%) and moisture (0.68%). A survey conducted by Directorate of Marketing and Inspection, Government of India, during 1973-74, had estimated post harvest losses in foodgrains to be about 5% out of which the storage losses were estimated at about 2.7%. A joint survey conducted by the Indian Agricultural Statistics Research Institute and Indian Grain Storage Management and Research Institute during 1985-88 in Bulandshahar district of UP had estimated total foodgrain losses at about 4.12% due to different factors at various post harvest stages. However, the losses in foodgrains during storage in the organised sector is less than 0.5% as given below:

(Figure in %)

Year	F.C.I.	C.W.C.
1997-1998	0.40(provisional)	0.46
1998-99	0.40(provisional)	0.43
1999-2000	Data not compiled	

(c) In order to reduce losses to foodgrains during the post harvest period, the Government of India had launched the Save Grain Campaign in 1969-70. The main thrust of activities of this Scheme is training, demonstration and publicity in the field of scientific storage of foodgrains at the farm level. Improvement of grain storage structures and popularisation of scientific storage structures like metal bins, pucca kothis and RCC ring bins and other activities are carried out by the Save Grain Campaign for the benefit of farmers.

Reimbursement to Gujarat for Transportation of Palmolien

5053. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Gujarat Government has represented for increasing reimbursement of road freight expenses for transportation of palmolien allotted by the Union Government through STC;

(b) if so, whether Government are considering the same; and

(c) the time frame by which a decision could be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) No such representation has been received from the Government of Gujarat.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Master plan for Chilka Lake

5054. SHRI B. J. PANDA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to implement a Master plan for development of Chilka Lake in Orissa;

(b) whether that Master plan is likely to be implemented during Ninth Five Year Plan;

(c) if so, the funds earmarked therefor; and

(d) what other steps are being taken to restore the ecology of that largest blue lagoon of Asia?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) Government of Orissa have decided to prepare a Master plan for development of Chilka lake through a non-Governmental organisation namely, Wetlands International (South Asia). The Master plan is expected to be ready by September, 2000.

(b) and (c) A decision on the implementation schedule can be worked out and funds earmarked only after the Master plan is finalised.

(d) Chilka lake has been identified for conservation and management under the national Wetland Conservation Programme of Government. The Programme includes such activities as afforestation, soil conservation, habitat improvement of Nalabana, environmental awareness, information database