

The Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) has proposed to construct 1.89 lakh tonnes storage capacity at 22 locations throughout the country during the year 1999-2000 including Andhra Pradesh. The centres identified for construction in Andhra Pradesh are given below:

1. Adilabad	5000MT
2. Chityal	5700MT
3. Enumamula (Warangal)	5000MT
4. Vizag. II	10000MT

In addition, under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for construction of godowns, financial assistance is provided to the States/UTs for construction of godowns for capacity upto 2000 MT for strengthening of Public Distribution System (PDS). Government of India provide financial assistance to the States/UTs to construct new godowns on the basis of proposals received from them. A provision of Rs., 62.50 crores has been made in the Ninth Plan (1997-2000) under the Scheme. No proposal has been received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh in the current year. An amount of Rs. 137.40 lakhs has been sanctioned to the State Government for construction 18 godowns during the year 1996-97 and 1997-98.

(c) Yes, Sir., The Centrally Sponsored Schemes for construction of godowns and purchase of vans/trucks in the States/Union Territories are continuing.

(d) the budget provision for Centrally sponsored scheme for construction of godowns for the year 1999-2000 is Rs. 1250 lakhs and for purchase of vans/trucks Rs. 1000 lakhs has been provided for the year 1999-2000.

PDS Norms, for cyclone affected Orissa

978. SHRI SANATAN BISI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any relaxation has been effected in the norms of PDS for the affected people of Orissa due to recent Super Cyclone; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard?

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

[10 December, 1999]

RAJYA SABHA

(a) Yes, Sir. Central Government has made allocation of PDS commodities over and above the normal allocation of foodgrains, sugar and kerosene to the State Government of Orissa for distribution to the people affected by the recent super cyclone.

(b) Details of additional allocations made to the State Government are as follows:

Foodgrains: The Central Government has made special allocation of 2,19,540 tonnes of rice to the Govt, of Orissa at specially subsidised Central Issue Price (CIP) applicable for BPL families for distribution to cyclone affected people of 14 districts in Orissa. This is to enable the Orissa Govt, to distribute 20 kg of foodgrains per family per month to all affected families in the 14 districts of the State for a period of five months from November, 1999 till March, 2000 A.D. without discriminating between BPL and APL families. The names of the 14 districts are as under :—

1. Balasore 2. Bhadrak 3. Mayurbhanj 4. Cuttack 5. Jaipur 6. Jagatsinghpur 7. Kendrapara 8. Gajapati 9. Ganjam 10. Puri 11. Khurda 12. Nayagarh 13. Dhenkanal 14. Keonjhar.

Out of 2,19,540 tonnes of rice, 2000 tonnes rice has been allocated to the State Govt, for distribution among NGOs of repute and to Central PSUs to run community kitchens in Orissa for cyclone affected people.

A quantity of 50,000 tonnes of wheat has also been allotted to the Govt, of Orissa at BPL rate for conversion into Atta and distribution at pre-determined price in the coastal districts of the State. However, in view of the reluctance of the State Governments to distribute Atta, the unlifted quantity of wheat has been allowed to be pooled with special allocation of rice for distribution @ 20 kg per family per month in the affected areas.

This special allocation is in addition to the regular monthly allotment of rice and wheat being given to the State under TPDS.

Kerosene: The Government has made ad-hoc additional allocation of 20,000 KLs, of SKO to the State of Orissa during October and November, 1999 to meet the demand of cyclone hit areas of Orissa. The Government has also increased the monthly allocation of SKO for the month of November, 1999 by 20,000 KLs, over and above the normal monthly allocation to meet the increased allocation of SKO of 10 litres per family of the cyclone affected areas as requested by the State Government.

Sugar : Under the present policy of partial control, the monthly allocation of levy sugar to most of the States/UTs is being made generally on a norm of ensuring 425 gms. per capita availability as per the population figures of 1991 census with effect from 1.1.1996. The present monthly levy sugar quota of Orissa on the above norm is 13456.0 MTs. In relaxation to the above norm a qty. of 1000.0 MTs. of levy sugar has been released to Orissa from Bargarh and Aska sugar Factories as additional levy sugar quota, in view of the recent super cyclone.

Edible oil: In so far as supply of imported edible oil through the Public Distribution System is concerned, the norms in this regard are fixed by the States/UTs. themselves. The State Government has been requested to indicate the quantity of imported edible oils that may be required for super cyclone victims.

Crisis in Oil Industry

†979. SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:—

(a) whether oil industry of India is under deep crisis and is on the verge of closure:

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps are being taken by Government to streamline the oil industry of India, to make the country self-reliant in the field of oilseeds and to provide indigenous edible oil to the common people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) The overall capacity utilisation of the oil industry is hardly one third of the installed capacity.

(b) Some of the reasons for this unsatisfactory State of Affairs are:—

(i) Creation of capacity totally incommensurate with the availability of raw materials.

(ii) By and large obsolete technology.

(iii) Inefficiency of operation.

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.