

out all required remedial action to ensure smooth functioning of TPDS in the States/UTs.

State/UT Governments are periodically carrying out review of existing lists of ration cards to eliminate bogus ration cards/units in them. Instructions were issued to all State/UT Governments to carry out an intensive campaign from October, 2009 to December, 2009 to review the existing list of BPL/AAY families and eliminate ineligible/bogus ration cards.

The Government has requested States/UTs to carry out door step delivery of TPDS commodities directly to Fair Price Shops.

A scheme for the computerization of TPDS operations has been taken up on pilot basis in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Chhattisgarh and Delhi.

A pilot scheme for smart card based delivery of TPDS commodities, in place of existing ration cards has been initiated in Haryana and Chandigarh. Here in smart cards containing biometric features of family members would be issued.

Introduction of Global Positioning System (GPS) has been taken up on pilot basis in Chhattisgarh, Tamil Nadu and Delhi for tracking movement of vehicles carrying TPDS commodities.

The above referred measures will curb diversion of PDS commodities as well as ensure their sale only to intended beneficiaries.

Rottening of foodgrains

2358. SHRI N.K. SINGH:

SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that a large quantity of foodgrains stored in Government godowns are being lost due to rotting and the presence of pests;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is a maximum time limit for the storage of foodgrains in godowns and prompt replacement of old stocks within a stipulated time-frame;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by Government to dispose damaged foodgrains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Negligible quantity of foodgrains stored in godowns of Food Corporation of India (FCI) are being lost due to rotting and the presence of pests. The foodgrains are damaged and become non-issuable due to various reasons, such as, heavy rains, floods, acceptance of below specifications stocks, insects and

rodent pests and movement to other regions. The details of foodgrains accrued as damaged/non-issuable against the total quantity handled by FCI are given below:—

Fig. in lakh tons

Year	Total foodgrains stocks handled by FCI	Total quantity of foodgrains accrued as damaged/ non-issuable
2007-08	750.52	0.34
2008-09	913.23	0.20
2009-10 (upto Feb., 2010)	826.87	0.07

(c) and (d) There is no fixed time limit for storage of foodgrains in godowns. However, the principle of 'First-In-First-Out' (FIFO) is followed to the extent possible and on receipt of fresh stocks, the old stocks are issued to the consuming areas for Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and other welfare schemes by following the principle of FIFO.

(e) The damaged foodgrains in FCI are disposed off by tender sale and following a prescribed procedure after categorization of the damaged stocks.

Damage of foodgrains

2359. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether some quantity of foodgrains with FCI in Central pool damaged every year due to various reasons;

(b) if so, the quantity of foodgrains with FCI damaged during 2008-09 and 2009-10 in the country, region-wise; and

(c) the details of the steps taken by FCI to check recurrence of such damage in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) The quantity of foodgrains that got damaged during the year 2008-09 and 2009-10 (upto Feb., 2010) due to various reasons, such as, heavy rains, floods, acceptance of below specifications stocks etc. are as follows:—

Sl No.	Year	Quantity accrued as damaged (in LMTs)
1.	2008-09	0.20
2.	2009-10 (upto Feb., 2010)	0.07
TOTAL		0.27