

MDG relating to food crisis, Goal -1 seeks to "Eradicate Extreme Poverty and Hunger" and targets to halve by 2015 the proportion of people below national, poverty line and the proportion of people who suffer from hunger in comparison to the base year 1990.

As per mid-term statistical appraisal of India Country Report 2009 on MDGs (Central Statistical Organization), proportion of underweight children below 3 years of age came down to 46% by 2005-06 from estimated 53.5% in 1990.

In India, presently there are adequate stocks of foodgrains available. Their Central pool stocks are more than sufficient to meet requirements. As a medium term goal, Eleventh Plan has targeted agricultural growth rate of 4.1%. To achieve this, in consultation with stakeholders, initiatives like National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil-palm & Maize (ISOPOM) and increased availability of Agricultural Credit have been taken to improve productivity and production of food crops. Thus there is no apprehension of any food crisis in the country.

In order to minimize malnutrition, especially among children and women in poor households, Government implements Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and many other food based welfare schemes such as Mid-Day-Meal (MDM) Scheme for school children, Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme for children below 6 years of age and mothers, Annapoorna Scheme for indigent senior citizens of 65 years of age or above but not getting old age pension, Nutritional Programme for Adolescent Girls (NPAG), scheme for supply of subsidized foodgrains to hostels and Village Grain Banks Scheme.

#### **Wastage of foodgrains**

‡2167. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether proper storage could not be done due to negligence of officers of Food Corporation of India owing to which grains were wasted especially during the rainy season;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government has taken cognizance of this fact and has directed the Chairman and Managing Director of Food Corporation of India to take firm action in this matter; and

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‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

(c) whether the directions issued also include suspension of guilty officers and registration of criminal cases against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) Reports have been received about damage to FCI foodgrains stocks by rains and floods during July, 2010 in Uttar Pradesh, Uttrakhand, Rajasthan, Haryana and Punjab as given below:

States	Depots	Damaged wheat (tons)
Uttar Pradesh	Hapur	9.3
	Harduaganj	90
	Orai, Jalaun	0.5
	Saharanpur, CWC Bamanheri	29.2
	CWC, Saharanpur, Pilkhahi	1.0
	Roza, Shahjahanpur	Damage yet to be quantified
	Chanderi, Kanpur	Damage yet to be quantified
Rajasthan	Udaipur, rail head	8.56
Haryana	HSWC, Bani	Damage yet to be quantified
Punjab	CAP complex Khonuri, Sangrur	Damage yet to be quantified
Uttrakhand	SWC Gadarpur, Udham Singh Nagar	Damage yet to be quantified

In addition, damage of 8.8 tons of wheat has also been reported by FCI at Karad and Gondia in Maharashtra. Based on current economic cost to FCI, value of the so far quantified damaged wheat in U.P., Rajasthan and Maharashtra works out to Rs.22.75 lakh.

Above damage to foodgrains stocks have taken place due to failure in taking required precautionary measures by the concerned officers of FCI except at Bani in Haryana where the damage has been due to flood.

Based on report of the team on Hapur, Orai and Harduaganj depots, FCI has been asked to take immediate further action. As per the FCI's report, they have suspended 8 officers/officials against whom disciplinary proceedings have been launched.

Similarly, Central Teams were deputed to Haryana and Punjab. Exact quantities of all these damages are being worked out. After detailed enquiry in each case of damages, FCI and concerned State agencies are to fix responsibility and recover the losses.

#### **Rottening of wheat**

‡2168. SHRI BRIJLAL KHABRI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that wheat is rotting in godowns in many States;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) the reasons for rotting of wheat in godowns and steps taken by Government against guilty officials; and
- (d) steps taken by Government to prevent recurrence of such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) No Sir. However, some quantity of wheat gets damaged due to various reasons such as rains, floods, cyclones, pest, rodents and fungus infestation of stocks.

Total quantity of damaged wheat as on 1.07.2010 available in the godowns of FCI is 2,486 MTs. The State-wise damages are given in the Statement (See below).

Whenever negligence is found resulting in the wastage of foodgrains responsibility is fixed on delinquent employees of FCI and disciplinary action is initiated against them. The details of such actions during last three years is as under:

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