

### Food Subsidy

1131. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether country's food subsidy bill is close to Rs.63,000 crore;
- (b) if so, the comparative details thereof for the last four years; and
- (c) the steps being taken to improve GDP for the remaining current five year plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) The total food subsidy released to Food Corporation of India and State Governments carrying out decentralized procurement during the last four years has been as under:

(Rs. in crore)

Year	Subsidy released
2006-07	23827.59
2007-08	31259.68
2008-09	43668.08
2009-10	58242.45

For 2010-11, Rs. 55211.00 crore has been allocated for food subsidy in Budget Estimates (BE) 2010-11.

(c) For remaining period of Eleventh Plan, the strategy for faster growth with greater inclusiveness consisting of policies of economic reforms, revival of agricultural growth, improved access to essential services in health and education through skill development, thrust on infrastructural development and environmental sustainability are being continued.

Picking up of private consumption demand and investment are expected to help in achieving higher growth in the economy.

### Foodgrains in FCI godowns

†1132. SHRI JAI PRAKASH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (a) the details of foodgrains rotted during last year in godowns of Food Corporation of India, State-wise;
- (b) the reasons responsible for such rotten foodgrains;
- (c) whether Government is taking any steps to stop such wastage of foodgrains; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) State-wise details of foodgrains accrued as damaged/non-issuable in godowns of Food Corporation of India (FCI) during last year, i.e., 2009-10 are given in statement-I (See below).

(b) Foodgrains get damaged due to various reasons such as storage pest attack, leakage; godowns, procurement of poor quality stocks, during movement of stocks, exposure to rains, floods, etc.

(c) and (d) There are existing instructions issued by Government to FCI for proper storage and upk of foodgrains. The steps to be taken by FCI are given in statement-II (See below). Government has reiterated these instructions and directed FCI as well as State Governments/agencies to monitor effectively observance of these steps and ensure proper storage of foodgrains.

**Statement-I**

*Region wise and commodity wise stock accrued as non-issuable (damaged) during the year 2009-10 in FCI depots.*

(Fig. in tons)

Sl.No	Region	Wheat	Rice	Paddy	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Bihar	655	29	42	726
2.	Jharkhand	13	4	0	17
3.	West Bengal	325	1032	0	1357
4.	Assam	0	38	0	38

1	2	3	4	5	6
5	North East Frontier	0	77	0	77
6.	Delhi	3	2	0	5
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	0	11	0	11
8.	Punjab	0	2273	0	2273
9.	Rajasthan	12	0	0	12
10.	Uttar Pradesh	12	2	0	14
11.	Kerala	0	19	0	19
12.	Karnataka	0	70	0	70
13.	Tamil Nadu	0	1	0	1
14.	Gujarat	785	29	0	814
15.	Maharashtra	173	72	0	245
16.	Madhya Pradesh.	28	21	0	49
17.	Chandigarh	4	0	970	974
TOTAL		2010	3680	1012	6702

**Statement-II**

*Steps taken/to be taken by FCI for safe storage and preservation of foodgrains*

- (i) All FCI godowns are to be constructed as per specifications.
- (ii) Foodgrains are to be stored by adopting proper scientific code of storage practices of the foodgrains.
- (iii) Adequate dunnage materials, such as, wooden crates, bamboo mats, polythene sheets are to be used to check the migration of moisture from the floor.
- (iv) Fumigation covers, nylon ropes, nets and insecticides for control of stored grain insect pests are to be provided in all the godowns.
- (v) Prophylactic (spraying of insecticides) and curative treatments (fumigation) are to be carried out regularly and timely in FCI godowns for the control of stored grain insect pests.

- (vi) Effective rat control measures, both in covered godowns as well as in CAP storage are to be used.
- (vii) Foodgrains in 'Cover and Plinth' (CAP) storage are to be stored on elevated plinths and wooden crates are used as dunnage material. Stacks are properly covered with specifically fabricated low-density black polythene water proof covers and tied with nylon ropes/nets.
- (viii) Regular periodic inspections of the stocks/godowns are to be undertaken by qualified and trained staff of FCI including senior officers.
- (ix) The principle of "First in First Out" (FIFO) is to be followed to the extent possible so as to avoid longer storage of foodgrains in godowns.
- (x) Only covered wagons are used for movement of foodgrains so as to avoid damages during transit.

#### **Wastage of wheat**

1133. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that lacs of tonnes of wheat was destroyed/damaged due to poor and faulty storage arrangement and the matter has been inquired into;
- (b) if so, the quantity and value of such wheat and officers found guilty of mismanagement and action taken against them; and
- (c) the steps taken to prevent recurrence of such situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) No, Sir. During the current year from April 2010 to Sept. 2010, a quantity of 665 MTs of wheat amounting to about Rs. 30.42 lakh has been accrued as damaged/non-issuable in FCI due to various reasons. Strict vigilance checks are kept by FCI to monitor the upkeep of foodgrains stored in the godowns.

The details of the FCI officers found guilty of mismanagement, resulting in damage to wheat stocks and who were proceeded against are as under: