

(c) the steps being taken by Government to strengthen the Public Distribution System, keeping in view the fact that in coming days the Right to Food Act would be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) No Sir, In order to ensure that only good quality foodgrains free from insect infestation are issued for public distribution system (PDS), following steps have been taken by the Government:

- (1) Ample opportunities are being provided to officials of State Governments/UT Administrations to inspect the stocks prior to lifting from FCI godowns.
- (2) State Governments/UT Administrations have been requested to depute an officer not below the rank of Inspector for inspection of the foodgrains before their lifting from FCI godowns.
- (3) The samples from the stocks to be issued to States/UTs are to be drawn jointly and sealed by the officers of State Governments and FCI for displaying them at Fair Price Shops (FPS) for the benefit of consumers.
- (4) In case the State agencies are taking delivery from FCI and thereafter delivering the same to the FPS dealers, they have to follow the same procedure as being followed by FCI for issuing the jointly sealed samples drawn for display at FPS.
- (5) Type samples are to be displayed by FPS dealers in their shops, so that the consumers may check the quality of foodgrains supplied to them.
- (6) State Governments/UT Administrations have been asked to ensure that during transportation and storage at different stages in the distribution chain, the foodgrains retain the required quality specifications.

(c) Strengthening and streamlining of Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is a continuous process. Government has regularly reviewed and has also issued instructions to States/Union Territories to strengthen functioning of TPDS by improving monitoring mechanism and vigilance, increased transparency in functioning of TPDS, adoption of revised Model Citizen's Charter, use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) tools and by improving the efficiency of Fair Price Shop operations.

Procurement of wheat

†824. SHRI BRIJLAL KHABRI: 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 State-wise details of procurement of wheat in the country;
- (b) the reasons for delay in payment to the farmers;
- (c) the manner of coordination maintained by FCI with the States for payment to the farmers and storage of foodgrains; and
- (d) the measures adopted for storing and protecting foodgrains from duststorms, rain and decay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The State-wise details of the wheat procured in the country during each of the last three years and the current year are given in the Statement-I (See below).

(b) There are no reports of delayed payments to the farmers on account of wheat procurement.

(c) Before start of every Rabi Marketing Season (RMS), a meeting of Food Secretaries of wheat procuring States and Food Corporation of India (FCI) officials is held in the Department to coordinate arrangements for wheat procurement including storage arrangements. Based on expected production, FCI and State agencies in consultation with State Governments set up requisite number of purchase centres at various key points including Mandis. Payments for stocks purchased are made to State agencies within reasonable period of time by FCI.

(d) Steps taken by FCI for safe and proper storage of food-grains are given in the Statement-II (See below)

Statement-I

Procurement of wheat for central pool during rabi marketing season 2008-09 to 2011-12

(Quantity in lakh tonnes)

Sl.No.	States/UTs	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Punjab	99.41	107.25	102.09	109.57
2.	Haryana	52.37	69.24	63.47	68.91
3.	U.P.	31.38	38.82	16.45	34.60
4.	M.P.	24.10	19.68	35.38	48.94
5.	Bihar	5.00	4.97	1.83	4.77

1	2	3	4	5	6
6.	Rajasthan	9.35	11.52	4.76	13.02
7.	Uttarakhand	0.85	1.45	0.86	0.42
8.	Chandigarh	0.10	0.12	0.09	0.07
9.	Delhi	0.06	-	0.1	0.08
10.	Gujarat	4.14	0.75	0.01	1.05
11.	Jharkhand	0.02	-	Neg.	-
12.	Maharashtra	0.10	-	-	-
13.	H.P.	-	0.01	Neg.	Neg.
14.	J&K	0.01	0.01		
15.	West Bengal	-	-	0.09	-
	TOTAL	226.89	253.82	225.14	281.44

Statement-II

*Steps taken/to be taken by F.C.I. and State Government agencies
for safe storage of foodgrains*

- (i) All godowns are to be constructed as per laid down specifications.
- (ii) Foodgrains are to be stored by adopting proper scientific code of storage practices.
- (iii) Adequate dunnage materials such as wooden crates, bamboo mats, polythene sheets are to be used to check 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 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 to be used as dunnage material. Stacks are to be properly covered with specifically fabricated low-density black polythene water-proof covers and tied with nylon rope/nets.

- (viii) Regular periodic inspections of the stocks/godowns are to be undertaken by qualified and trained staff 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 rail wagons are to be used for movement of foodgrains so as to avoid damage during transit.

Audit of accounts

†825. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a corporation or a company has to submit details of its account within six months after the financial year is over under the Companies Act;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that many public sector companies in Bihar have not got their accounts audited during the last many years; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) There are large number of PSUs who have not filed upto date financial statements, the details thereof are tabulated hereunder:-

	Bihar State PSUs	Central PSUs in Bihar
Number of Companies	71	04
Filed Balance sheet upto 2010	05	02

Corporate Social Responsibility guidelines

826. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government does not wish to make expenditure on Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) mandatory but would come out with forward looking flexible CSR guidelines;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government proposes to include the CSR code in the new Companies Bill; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.