

PROF. K. V. THOMAS: Sir, these are the State Governments who take action on the basis of the prevention of black-marketing and maintenance of the substance of the Essential Commodities Act, 1980. All the States are taking action. Once the case is filed, after sixty days, they report to the Government. We also follow up the reports that we get from the States. As the hon. Member suggested, we are also in touch with the State Governments. The hon. Member has asked how many people have been convicted. The action is being taken. We are in touch with the State Governments.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Question No. 522. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Sir, I remember, Shri Pranab Mukherjee had assured this House that action will be taken. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No; no. Please sit down, ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: The Minister should give some answer. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. Question No. 522.

Revamping of FCI

*522. SHRIMATI GUNDU SUDHARANI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Food Corporation of India (FCI) has become a “White Elephant”;

(b) whether there are any plans before the Ministry to revamp FCI or to have a fresh policy with regard to FCI;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether it is also a fact that the revamping of FCI is necessary for implementation of the proposed National Food Security Bill; and

(e) if so, the manner in which the Ministry is planning to go ahead in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K. V. THOMAS): (a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (c) The Food Corporation of India (FCI) was set up in the year 1965 under the Food Corporations Act, 1964. FCI is a non-profit making organization and is dependent on the food subsidy from Government of India for carrying out its assigned functions. It undertakes the important functions of procurement of foodgrains by itself or through State agencies, its storage and distribution for the Public Distribution System. In spite of its such a large role, sanctioned staff strength of FCI has been reduced over the years from 55045 to 36515 (excluding Watch & Ward and Hindi posts) in the year 2010. The staff strength of FCI has been rationalized in the year 2010 after an organizational restructuring was carried out with a view to strengthen the important functions in the areas of quality control, storage etc.

(d) and (e) The requirement of foodgrains to implement the National Food Security Bill is not likely to be substantially higher than the current allocation of foodgrains under Targeted Public Distribution System and Other Welfare Schemes. The scale of operation of Food Corporation of India is, therefore, not required to expand significantly. However, on implementation of National Food Security Bill, the entitlements will have to be delivered in a rights based manner.

SHRIMATI GUNDU SUDHARANI: Sir, the hon. Minister has given the history of the FCI, which I had not asked. I had asked whether there is any policy proposal to revamp the FCI. He has not replied to that. I request the hon. Minister to reply to that first. Secondly, ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, one question at a time. ...(*Interruptions*)... No; no. Question has been put. Let the Minister answer that.

PROF. K. V. THOMAS: Sir, the answer to the question put by the hon. Member is that there is no proposal to revamp the FCI. The FCI is P.S.U. with all its merits and demerits. It is a public sector undertaking. It helps the farmers to get the minimum support price. It procures a large quantity of foodgrains and the public distribution system is, by and large is managed by the FCI by procuring, storage and transporting. So, the FCI is a major organization. I do admit that there are some problems regarding the management of the FCI. But still it is the only organization which would be ever able to provide the minimum support price to the farmers. And, it is the organization that supplies foodgrains to the States continuously.

SHRIMATI GUNDU SUDHARANI: Sir, the FCI oversees the operations and maintains bufferstocks of foodgrains and ensures food security. But, at the same time, it is a 'white elephant' because of over-centralized bureaucratic structure. Corruption is rampant from top to bottom. There is aversion to use latest technology and apathy in preserving foodgrains, etc. So, there is no other way, but to decentralize it. In view of this, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether it is true that there is a proposal before the Ministry to divide the FCI into six zones for effective control and functioning of the FCI. If yes, the details may please be provided.

PROF. K. V. THOMAS: The FCI is already functioning in a decentralized structure. We have got five executive Directors at the zonal level.

We have got General Managers in the State level and we have got an effective mechanism to monitor the entire operation.

Sir, one of the questions which is often raised and is now being raised is related to the administrative cost of FCI. Very often, it is alleged that the administrative cost of FCI is very high. But that is not the truth. Sir, we are giving proper wages to all our workers. We are a public sector undertaking, and not a private sector undertaking. We have got about 50,000 workers with us in the loading and unloading sector and several other sectors; and we are giving proper wages.

Sir, coming to the administrative cost, in 2002-03, the administrative cost was 2.53 per cent. Now, it has come down to 1.77 per cent. Sir, it is the result of the good work which the FCI has done. The computerization is going on, modernization is going on, and all this is done within the financial limits that we have got. Sir, our staff strength which was around 50,000-52,000 has been stayed at about 30,000. But, with that strength also, we are still trying to manage things.

DR. ASHOK S. GANGULY: Mr. Chairman, through you, I have two specific questions for the hon. Minister. Both these issues have been discussed, talked about and recommended from time to time, and I would like the response of the hon. Minister to these two issues.

One is that in order to extend the competence and the ability of the FCI and in order to improve the storage and reduce the wastage that takes places due to outside storage during the season, had it been taken into consideration that the

FCI's modernization efforts might be extended to include public-private partnership? And, have we also considered the fact to provide financial support to farmers in order to build mini-silos in grain-growing areas and intermediate storage spots so that they are not required to undertake distress sales and can use that as a source of credit and put it out in the market at the appropriate time?

PROF. K. V. THOMAS: Sir, FCI procures foodgrains mainly through the State agencies. For example, in Punjab and Haryana, which produce about two-third of the foodgrains in the country, the procurement is mainly done by the State agencies. It is from the State agencies that we take out the foodgrains and then distribute it. But in Andhra, the procurement is done mostly by the millers, and the State Government of Andhra oversees whether the millers are giving the MSP. In Punjab and Haryana, it is the ARTHIYARS, who procure it, and even though we suggested that the MSP price to the farmers be given through bank cheques, but still it is going through ARTHIYARS and the Punjab and Haryana Governments still want that system to go on.

Sir, coming to private participation, in addition to our 63 million capacity, which we now have, we are adding 151 lakh tonnes under PEG Scheme (Private Entrepreneurs Guarantee Scheme) and this Private Entrepreneurs Guarantee Scheme is a guarantee for 10 years. Out of that, some quantity is given to the State Warehousing Corporations and the Central Warehousing Corporation, but the majority is given to private entrepreneurs where a guarantee is being given by the F.C.I. I am happy to announce, Sir, that out of this 151 lakh tonnes, which has been allotted, we have already constructed about 3 million and another 5 million will be added by the end of this year; and, by 2014 we will have all the 151 lakh tonnes under PEG Scheme. Coming to the silos, we have decided to build silos with an additional two million tonnes' storage capacity, and they have already been allotted to the States. In consultation with the State Government, we would build silos with another two million tonnes' storage capacity under the PEG Scheme.

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: श्रीमन्, माननीय मंत्री जी अपने जवाब में यह कह रहे हैं कि हम स्टोरेज की capacity बढ़ाने जा रहे हैं और हमने पीपीपी का जो प्लान किया है, उससे हमारे पास भण्डारण क्षमता 150 लाख metric tonnes हो जाएगी। क्या यह आपकी नॉलेज में है कि आज भी करीब 12 metric tonnes अनाज खुले में पड़ा हुआ है? जब यह "फूड फॉर ऑल" बिल पास हो जाएगा, तो हमें करीब 100 metric tonnes अनाज अतिरिक्त खरीदना पड़ेगा, जिसे रखने के लिए हमारे पास जगह नहीं है। क्या माननीय मंत्री जी यह बताएंगे कि पिछले दो सालों में पीपीपी के अन्तर्गत आपने कितने ऑफर्स माँगे, कितने आए और उनमें कितने क्रियान्वित हुए?

PROF. K. V. THOMAS: Sir, as replied earlier, the total capacity available under covered storage is 455.70 lakh tonnes while the capacity under CAP storage is 171.66 lakh tonnes. A total of 627.36 lakh tonnes of storage capacity has been provided. Then comes the PEG Scheme, under which, as I said, this year a storage capacity of three million tonnes has been added. There are other schemes that are with the State Governments, where the Government of India provides assistance. For example, we are giving grants to the States, and we have sanctioned storage space with about 0.732 metric tons capacity, out of which 0.16 have been completed. Under the Grameen Bhandar Yojana, the Ministry of Agriculture has sanctioned 310 lakh. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: माननीय सभापति जी, मैंने दूसरा क्वेश्चन पूछा था। ...(व्यवधान)... मेरा प्रश्न यह है ही नहीं। माननीय मंत्री जी समझ ही नहीं पा रहे हैं कि मेरा प्रश्न क्या है। माननीय मंत्री जी, मैं यह कह रहा हूँ कि आपने पीपीपी के लिए अनुबन्ध की एक योजना निकाली थी। दो साल पहले माननीय शरद पवार जी ने यहाँ, इसी सदन में घोषणा की थी कि हम पीपीपी से देश में खाद्यान्न को रखने की जो समस्या है, उसे दूर करेंगे। एफसीआई ने दो साल पहले पीपीपी के तहत जो टेंडर निकाला था, उसमें कितने लोग पार्टिसिपेंट्स हुए और कितने टेंडर स्वीकृत हुए?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please give this specific answer. ...(Interruptions)...

PROF. K. V. THOMAS: Sir, these are the State-wise details. I could pass them on to the hon. Member.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right. Shri Ananda Bhaskar Rapolu. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: यह तो कोई जवाब नहीं हुआ।

श्री सभापति: उन्होंने कहा कि आपको डिटेल्स भेज देंगे।

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: फिर तो सबको पहले ही कमरे में बुला कर बात कर लें। ...(व्यवधान)... फिर तो मंत्री लोग एक जवाब दे दें कि हम माननीय सदस्य को कमरे में बुला कर बता देंगे। फिर यह सदन किसलिए है? यह सदन इसलिए है कि यहाँ जो जवाब दिया जाएगा, वह पूरे देश की जनता के सामने जाएगा।

श्री सभापति: अगर जवाब अवेलेबल नहीं है और वे यह एश्योरेंस दे रहे हैं ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: अगर जवाब अवेलेबल नहीं है, तो आप प्रश्न स्थगित कर दीजिए। यह तो आपका अधिकार है। अगर मंत्री जवाब नहीं दे सकते, तो आप प्रश्न स्थगित कर दीजिए। प्रश्न को दोबारा लगा दीजिए, जब मंत्री जवाब दे सकें। इस सदन का यूज़ क्या है? ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, what is the use of putting questions if the Minister is not. ...(*Interruptions*)... If these are not provided to the House, what is the use of putting supplementary questions? ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: It cannot be anybody's case that all the information in the world relating to a supplementary is necessarily available with any one individual. So, if the individual is giving an assurance that the information will be made available, that should suffice. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Sir, the question he has asked is a part of the main question, and the hon. Minister must be prepared to reply. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: One person at a time, please, ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI: Sir, the Minister must be prepared to answer the questions put to him in the House. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Sir, the Minister is bound to reply. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No one can be prepared for all possible questions. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: He must give the reply ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI: The Minister should give reply in the House. ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री सभापति: भाई, वे जवाब दे रहे हैं, सुन लीजिए ...(*व्यवधान*)...

PROF. K. V. THOMAS: I can give State-wise details. ...(*Interruptions*)... I have got the details. ...(*Interruptions*)... There is no problem. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: If you have the information, please make it available to all the Members. ...(*Interruptions*)...

PROF. K. V. THOMAS: Details are with me. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have to rotate the question. ...(*Interruptions*)... Go ahead please ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU: Sir, I would like to ask the Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is no computer programme which will make it possible for any Chair to select three supplementaries in the House of 245. We try to be as fair as possible by rotating questions. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU: Sir, my State Andhra Pradesh comprising three regions — Telangana, Rayalaseema and Coastal Andhra — is ready to face within a few more days the Kharif season. The Rabi yield is already on the roads, in the market yards, and in the open grounds just before the godowns of Food Corporation of India. There was always a regular problem in our State to await the arrival of rail wagons so as to deliver the lying foodgrains in order to save farmers as well as millers. We were, time and again, ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please ask the question. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU: We were, time and again, making a request to the Union Government, in particular to the Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution to provide a linkage between the foodgrains procurement as well as the rail wagons movement. What is the arrangement so far made out? I would like to know from the Minister what is the arrangement made to provide rail wagon facility to save our foodgrains in our State.

PROF. K. V. THOMAS: Sir, in Andhra Pradesh the procurement and milling is done mostly by private millers. It is the State Government which oversees whether the millers are giving the MSP to farmers. After milling takes place, FCI takes over the rice as per agreement and then delivers it to States like Kerala, Karnataka and also to other States which need rice. So, there is a regular arrangement with the Railways so that wagons can move from Andhra Pradesh. But recently there are problems. I admit that there are problems because there is a large production throughout the country. The entire operation of movement of foodgrains, starting from Punjab, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, UP to Andhra and other States, has been, more or less, managed in a satisfactory manner.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 523. ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री विनय कटियार: सर, सवाल यह है कि सरकार ने इस देश के अन्दर यह ...(*व्यवधान*)... उत्तर प्रदेश में भी ...(*व्यवधान*)... हम यहाँ पर किसलिए आए हैं? ...(*व्यवधान*)... हम लोग इस सदन में किसलिए बैठे हैं? ...(*व्यवधान*)... यह प्रश्न रोज हो रहा है ...(*व्यवधान*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Vinayji, please look at the watch. ...(*Interruptions*)... Just one minute please....(*Interruptions*)... I want to clarify that position. A

supplementary question to a main question, apart from the person who has asked the question, is something by way of a courtesy given to individuals. The Rule in this House, as far as the Rule Book is concerned, is two supplementaries. This Chair is giving you three supplementaries. The Chair tries to rotate the supplementaries around the House, party-wise, front bench-wise, back bench-wise, etc. But you have to be patient about it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री विनय कटियार: सभापति जी, मैं आपकी व्यवस्था का उल्लंघन नहीं कर रहा हूँ।
...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री विनय कटियार: आप भी उत्तर प्रदेश से संबंध रखते हैं, वहां पर पूरा गेहूँ खरीदा नहीं जा रहा है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... सवाल यह उठता है ...*(व्यवधान)*... आप इस पर बहस करा दीजिए।
...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति: आप इस पर डिस्कशन मांगिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री विनय कटियार: हम किसानों का मामला यहां पर उठा सकते हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: See, there is a discussion listed. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please.
...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री विनय कटियार: सर, माननीय मंत्री जी पूरे सदन को गुमराह कर रहे हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*... कहीं भी गेहूँ की खरीदी नहीं हो रही है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... सभी जगह किसान परेशान हैं, किसान मर रहे हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Vinay ji, please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री विनय कटियार: सर, किसान मर रहे हैं, किसान आत्महत्या कर रहे हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I get the impression that we do not want to take up other Questions.

श्री शान्ता कुमार: सभापति महोदय, इसी सवाल पर आपने हमारे Short Duration Discussion को allow किया है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... मेरा यह निवेदन है कि जब इस महत्वपूर्ण सवाल पर डिस्कशन हो, तो अधिक समय देकर ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI SABIR ALI: I did not get a single chance. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री सभापति: देखिए, आज इस विषय पर Short Duration Discussion लिस्टेड है। आप कागज देखिए, आज के लिए यह लिस्टेड है। 'Discussion on the problem of foodgrains shortage in the country', it is there. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री विनय कटियार: सर, इसमें मुझे कोई आपत्ति नहीं है ...(व्यवधान)... लेकिन माननीय मंत्री जी को इस सदन में बयान तो देना चाहिए कि वे बोरे क्यों नहीं भेज रहे हैं? ...(व्यवधान)... राज्यों में बोरे क्यों नहीं मिल रहे हैं? ...(व्यवधान)... इस पर रोज चर्चा हो रही है, लेकिन किसी राज्य को बोरा नहीं भेजा जा रहा है। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति: विनय जी। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री विनय कटियार: आप इस पर चर्चा करवा लीजिए। ...(व्यवधान)... आप हमें संरक्षण दीजिए और माननीय मंत्री जी से पूछिए कि वे कब तक बोरे भेज रहे हैं? ...(व्यवधान)... हम तो केवल बोरे की बात कर रहे हैं। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री राम कृपाल यादव: सर, यह बहुत महत्वपूर्ण मसला है। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Just one minute. ...(Interruptions)... Let him finish. ...(Interruptions)... Yes, please ...(Interruptions)... Please. Let me take up other Questions. ...(Interruptions)... Question No. 523 ...(Interruptions)...

Projected power shortage

*523. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) has projected that the country would have an energy shortage of 10.3 per cent and a peak demand shortage of 12.9 per cent;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise, especially in Andhra Pradesh; and
- (c) the comparative details thereof during the Twelfth Five Year Plan, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Central Electricity Authority (CEA) had, in the Load Generation Balance Report (LGBR) for the year 2011-2012, estimated energy shortage of 10.3 per cent and peak demand shortage of 12.9 percent in the country in 2011-12.

(b) The details of State-wise energy shortage and peak shortage in the country including Andhra Pradesh as estimated in Load Generation Balance Report (LGBR) for the year 2011-12 are given in Statement-I (See below).

(c) The 18th Electric Power Survey (EPS) Report estimated the energy requirement in the terminal year of 12th Plan, that is, 2016-17 to be 1354.874 Billion Units. The 12th Plan capacity addition targets are being finalized keeping in view the projected demand for electricity in the country.