

(c) whether it is also a fact that about 70 per cent of this country's total population would get benefit from the implementation of this scheme; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Government in this regard and by when Government has decided to implement it in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) As per provisions of the National Food Security Bill, 2011 (NFSB), introduced in the Lok Sabha on 22nd December, 2011, the food subsidy requirement for Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and Other Welfare Schemes (OWS) prescribed in the Bill, is estimated at Rs. 1,12,205 crore for the complete year 2012-13. The estimated requirement is based on available information and subject to changes in variables such as coverage, economic cost of foodgrains and issue prices.

(c) and (d) The Bill provides for coverage of upto 75% of the rural population, with at least 46% population belonging to priority households and upto 50% of the urban population, with at least 28% population belonging to priority households for receiving subsidized foodgrains under TPDS. The Bill will also confer legal rights on women and children and other Special Groups such as destitute, homeless, disaster and emergency affected persons and persons living in starvation, to receive meal free of charge or at affordable price, as the case may be.

After introduction, the Bill has been referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Food, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution for examination. Further action on the Bill can be taken only after the report of the Committee is received.

#### **Shortage of storage facility**

4856. SHRI BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is an acute shortage of storage facilities for foodgrains, in view of bumper crops particularly in Punjab, Haryana, UP and MP;

(b) if so, the details of storage facilities *vis-a-vis* the estimated production of foodgrains;

(c) whether FCI has gone on record saying that a large quantum of foodgrains cannot be stored, in view of lack of storage capacity; and

(d) what strategy has been devised to prevent these excess foodgrains from damage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) The total storage capacity available with FCI and State Agencies for storage of Central Pool Stock is 627.36 lakh MT. State-wise details are [Refer to the Statement Appended to the Answer to USQ No. 4848 (Part (a))]

As on 31.03.2012, a storage capacity of 336.04 lakh MT (owned/hired/covered/Cover and Plinth) is available with FCI for storage of foodgrains. The statement showing state-wise storage capacity available with FCI is placed at Annexure-II [Refer to the Annexure No. 37 Appended to the Answer to USQ No. 4840 (Para (a) and (b))]

Production of wheat in the crop year 2011-12 is estimated to be 902.3 lakh tonne (as per Third Advance Estimates). The corresponding procurement in the Rabi Marketing Season (RMS) 2012-13 was estimated to be 318 lakh tonnes. Production of rice in the crop year 2011-12 is estimated to be 1034.1 lakh tonne (as per Third Advance Estimates). The corresponding procurement in the Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2011-12 was estimated to be 353.15 lakh tonne.

However, as far as procurement is concerned, the quantity of rice and wheat procured in the mentioned States during the ensuing marketing season are as under:

(fig. in lakh Tonne)

State	KMS 2011-12*	RMS 2012-13*
Punjab	77.31	122.99
Haryana	19.81	84.15
Uttar Pradesh	32.94	15.99
Madhya Pradesh	6.34	54.92

\* as on 15.04.2012

The estimated procurement for the above states was as under:

(fig. in lakh tonne)

State	KMS 2011-12	RMS 2012-13
Punjab	82.00	108.00
Haryana	16.87	70.00
Uttar Pradesh	24.57	42.00
Madhya Pradesh	5.00	65.00

Addressing concerns of a bumper crop, thus higher procurement and requirement of additional storage space for it, GMs (Region) of FCI have been directed to plan for additional storage jointly with the State Government officials and draw the list of locations including private storage spaces and abandoned storage spaces of cooperative sugar mills etc. alongwith their capacities and conditions in advance.

To meet any increased storage requirements, Executive Directors (Zones) and General Managers (Regions) of FCI have already been vested with full powers for hiring of godowns for short term usage to store the procured foodgrains as per their requirement if the capacity available with FCI is not sufficient to store the foodgrains.

As a long term measure to increase the covered storage capacity, the Government formulated a Scheme for construction of storage godowns through private entrepreneurs, Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) and State Warehousing Corporations (SWCs). Assessment of additional storage needs under the scheme is based on the overall procurement/consumption and the storage space already available. Under the scheme, a capacity of 151.96 lakh tonnes is to be created in 19 states through private entrepreneurs and Central and State Warehousing Corporations. Out of this, for a capacity of about 107 lakh tonne tenders have been finalised on the Private Investors including the capacities being constructed by CWC/SWCs on their own lands.

The Government has also approved creation of a capacity of 20 lakh tonnes in silos within the overall storage requirements of FCI under the Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode. Besides involving private entrepreneurs, this Department has also finalised a Plan scheme for creation of total additional storage capacity of 5.40 lakh tonne in the North East through FCI.

The steps taken by FCI to prevent damage to foodgrains is given in Statement (*See below*).

#### ***Statement***

##### ***Steps taken by FCI to preserve the quality of procured foodgrains during storage***

1. Before the commencement of Rabi and Kharif Marketing Seasons, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Department of Food and Public Distribution, Govt. of India issues uniform specifications for procurement of foodgrains for the Central Pool. These

uniform specifications are circulated to F.C.I, and all State Govts./ Agencies with instructions to ensure that foodgrains are procured strictly in accordance with the uniform specifications.

2. Foodgrains procured by F.C.I, and State Govts/Agencies are stored in covered godowns as well as in CAP (cover and plinth).
3. During storage, the following steps are taken for safe storage and preservations of foodgrains:

**Covered godowns:**

- 3.1 Godowns are constructed on scientific lines making it rodent proof by having proper height and damp proof by providing pucca floor.
- 3.2 Before the stocks are stored, the godown is properly cleaned and cobwebs etc., if any, are removed.
- 3.3 Floor and walls are treated with chemicals such as air charging with Malathion and DDVP (insecticide) to make them pest free.
- 3.4 Markings are provided for stacks and the dunnage material is used on which foodgrains bags are arranged as per the stack plan.
- 3.5 Prophylactic (spraying of insecticides) and curative measures (fumigation) are carried out regularly for the control of insects/ pests.
- 3.6 Effective rodent control measures are also undertaken.
4. Following checks/super checks are conducted in the godowns to ensure proper preservation of foodgrains in storage.
  - 4.1 Fortnightly inspection of stocks on 100% basis by Technical Assistants for declaring categorization and classification.
  - 4.2 Monthly inspection by Manager (QC)–33% of stocks (1/3rd of stocks) in a month. Monthly inspection reports (MIR) of Manager (QC) are scrutinized at Zonal level. Suggestions made therein are to be implemented and monitored through action taken reports (ATR)
  - 4.3 Quarterly inspection by AGM (QC)

**The following inspection schedule is prescribed for AGM (Quality Control):**

- 1/3rd of depots in a month so as to cover all the depots in the District in three months.

- 5% of stocks are to be checked in a depot having capacity of more than 25000 MTs.
- 10% of stocks in respect of depot having less than 25000 MTs
- Squad Inspection Reports (SIR) of AGM (QC) are scrutinized in Hqrs.

**CAP (Cover and plinth)**

5. In case of shortage of covered storage space, foodgrains may have to be stored in open in CAP. Every care is taken for maintenance of quality of grains, while kept in CAP. Rats, birds and moisture are the main enemies of grain in CAP storage. In view of the risk involved, this type of storage is attempted as a last resort. The following precautions are taken for proper storage of foodgrains in CAP Storage:
  - 5.1 The site selected for CAP is above the adjoining ground and away from nallahs and drainage to prevent any flooding of CAP storage during rainy season.
  - 5.2 CAP storage site is cleared of all plants/shrubs growth and disinfested with DDVP.
  - 5.3 Anti-termite measures are taken in CAP/open storage.
  - 5.4 Adequate dunnage is provided for all stacks in CAP/open storage, Wooden Crates are preferred. However, cement blocks, wooden rafters, causurina poles and granite blocks, according to local availability, have also been used successfully. The dunnage material is cleaned and disinfected either by fumigation or by treating with contact insecticides such as DDVP.
  - 5.5 The top of the stacks is built to form a dome, in the shape of an inverted 'U' to facilitate easy flow of rain water and prevent accumulation of water on the top.
  - 5.6 To protect the stocks from rain, sun, dew, birds, rodents etc. each stack is covered with a polythene cover especially made for this purpose. The polythene cover mounted on the stack is properly lashed by nylon ropes vertically to prevent damage to the covers due to high velocity winds, rains, dusts, storms etc.
  - 5.7 Regular prophylactic and curative measures are carried out for the control of stored grain insect pests in CAP storage. Rodent control

measures are also taken by fumigating the rat burrows with aluminium phosphide or by poisoning the rodents with Zinc Phosphide.

5.8 Moisture is the major factor responsible for adversely affecting the quality of foodgrains and is controlled by regular aeration of stocks during clear weather days.

5.9 Technical Assistant concerned checks the stocks on fortnightly basis followed by Super checks by Senior Officers.

5.10 Wheat stock stored in CAP by the State Govt./Agencies is subjected to joint inspection on a regular basis by officers of FCI and the concerned State Govt./Agencies. 100% inspection of State Agencies stocks kept in CAP in Punjab and Haryana have been conducted.

5.11 Stocks are generally issued/moved on the principle of “First in First Out” (FIFO).

**Payment of incidental charges for procurement under MSP**

4857. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Karnataka Government has preferred a claim of Rs. 1552.89 lakhs with the Ministry for settlement of procurement charges under MSP for the period 2000-01 to 2005-06;

(b) whether the audited accounts for the period have been submitted to the Ministry by the agencies concerned; and

(c) if so, the reasons why the claim is not settled, so far, and by when the payment would be made to the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) No claims of Government of Karnataka for procurement incidental charges for reimbursement of incidentals charges incurred during KMS 2000-01 to 2005-06 are pending with Government of India except for Ragi procurement for KMS 2005-06. Final claim of incidental charges for Ragi procurement for KMS 2005-06 has not been settled for want of revised bills to be submitted by Karnataka Civil Supplies Corporation after reconciling figures of offtake under Targeted Public Distribution System in the State.