

- (a) Godowns are constructed on scientific lines making it rodent proof by having proper height and damp proof by providing pucca floor.
- (b) Before the stocks are stored, the godown is properly cleaned and cobwebs etc., if any, are removed.
- (c) Floor and walls are treated with chemicals such as air charging with Malathion and DDVP (insecticide) to make them pest free.
- (d) Markings are provided for stacks and the dunnage material is used on which foodgrains bags are arranged as per the stack plan.
- (e) Prophylactic (spraying of insecticides) and curative measures (fumigation) are carried out regularly for the control of insects/pests.
- (f) Effective rodent control measures are also undertaken.

Following checks/super checks are conducted in the godowns to ensure proper preservation of foodgrains in storage.

- (a) Fortnightly inspection of stocks on 100% basis by Technical Assistants for declaring categorization and classification.
- (b) 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)
- (c) Quarterly inspection by AGM (QC)

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

- (a) 1/3rd of depots in a month so as to cover all the depots in the District in three months.
- (b) 5% of stocks are to be checked in a depot having capacity of more than 25000 MTs.
- (c) 10% of stocks in respect of depot having less than 25000 MTs
- (d) Squad Inspection Reports (SIR) of AGM (QC) are scrutinized in Hqrs.,

#### **Revamping of PDS**

1287. SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bill Gates article "Make the right choice" in the Hindustan Times dated 31st January, 2012 is an eye-opener;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government has not taken any concrete measures to tackle an impending food crisis;

(c) whether it is also a fact that every day millions of Indians go to bed hungry and hundreds of children suffer from malnutrition even though the foodgrain production of the country exceeds the consumption; and

(d) if so, what appropriate action the Ministry is taking to revamp the Public Distribution System and to create enough silos to store surplus foodgrains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) For making the country self-reliant in production of foodgrains, various Crop Development Schemes and Programmes like National food Security Mission (NFSM), Integrated Scheme of Oilseed, Pulses, Maize and Oil palm (ISOPOM), Mini Mission-II of Technology Mission on Cotton, Integrated Cereals Development Programme for Rice/Wheat/Coarse Cereals under Macro Management of Agriculture and Rashtriya Krishi Vikash Yojana (RKVY) are being implemented by the Department of Agriculture and Corporation through State Governments.

As per Second Advance estimate (Directorate of Economics and Statistics) 2011-12, the overall foodgrains production in the country is estimated at 250.42 million tones, which is 5.64 million tones higher than the last year's record production of 244.78 million tones.

(c) and (d) For tackling the problem of hunger, starvation and malnutrition in the country and to ensure that people living below poverty line get adequate food grains, the Government has been providing food grains at highly subsidized prices to the targeted population through the State Governments/UT Administrations under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and Other Welfare Schemes (OWS) such as Mid-Day Meal Scheme, Wheat Based Nutrition Programme, Rajiv Gandhi Scheme for Empowerment of Adolescent Girls (RGSEAG), Annapurna, Emergency Feeding Programme and Village Grain Bank Scheme.

Strengthening and streamlining of the TPDS is continuous process. In consultation with the State/UT Governments, a Nine Point Action Plan was evolved in 2006, which, *inter alia* includes continuous review of Below Poverty Line (BPL)/Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) list and to eliminate bogus/ineligible ration cards along with strict action to be taken against the guilty to ensure leakage free distribution of foodgrains. To improve functioning of TPDS, State/UTs have also been advised to ensure timely availability of foodgrains at Fair Price Shops, greater transparency in functioning of TPDS, improved monitoring and vigilance at various levels and introduction of new technologies such as Computerization of TPDS operations at various levels.

The Government has decided to create a storage capacity of two million tones through construction of silos, which will be constructed under the Private Public Partnership (PPP) mode for which food Corporation of India will be the nodal agency.