

Applied Economic Research (NCAER) during the period 2009-2010. Considering present level of outreach of 24% of the farmers from the Integrated Agro-Meteorological Advisory Service (IAAS), the financial contribution to the GDP comes to Rs. 44321 cr. As and when the extent of IAAS outreach increased to 100%, the GP contribution will rise to about Rs. 184, 671 cr.

(d) Yes, Sir. Considering the utility and importance of weather and climate based services in all spheres of life, Government is decided to strengthen the IMD to expand and excel its services further through implementation of following prioritized programmes during the XII plan:

- (1) Implementation of Phase-II of the modernization of IMD aiming to augment of observational, communication, warning dissemination and modeling infrastructure.
- (2) Establishment of Airborne Probing of Cyclone (APC) facility to generate the *in-situ* observations from the cyclone core environment to improve track, intensity and landfall forecasting of tropical cyclones.
- (3) Implementation of IAAS as Gramin Krishi Mausam Seva (GKMS) for block level on experimental basis.
- (4) Implementation of Monsoon Mission aiming to generate skillful seasonal monsoon rainfall forecast in different spatial ranges.
- (5) Implementation of Himalayan Meteorology aiming to augment of observational network over the Hills.
- (6) Augmentation of Aviation Meteorological Services.

#### **Inadequate storage facilities**

\*218. SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Food Corporation of India (FCI) has run out of storage space for procured foodgrains;
- (b) if so, whether foodgrains are being stored in makeshift structures making the foodgrains vulnerable to the vagaries of weather;
- (c) how much stock of foodgrains has been damaged/rotted/destroyed during the last three years due to inadequate storage facilities with FCI; and

- (d) what remedial measures Government proposes to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) The total storage capacity available with the Food Corporation of India (FCI) [owned and hired] as on 1.8.2012 was 372.79 lakh MTs. However, total storage capacity available with FCI and State agencies is 714.14 lakh MTs against the current central pool stocks of 690 lakh MTs in the form of wheat and rice. During procurement season, stock of foodgrains do exceed the available storage capacity for which temporary arrangements are made.

(c) Some quantities of foodgrains get damaged due to floods, rain, pests and other natural calamities. The details of the stocks which has accrued as non-issuable with FCI during the last three years are given as under:

Year	Quantity of Stocks in MT accrued as non-issuable (Wheat, Rice and Paddy)
2009-10	6702
2010-11	6346
2011-12 (upto 1.04.2012)	3338

(d) The remedial measures taken to augment storage facilities and preservation of foodgrains are:

- (i) To increase the covered storage capacity, the Government had launched the Private Entrepreneur Guarantee (PEG) scheme in 2008. Under this Scheme, a capacity of about 181.08 lakh tonnes is to be created in 19 States through private entrepreneurs and Central and State Warehousing Corporations.
- (ii) Action has also been initiated for creation of 20 lakh MTs capacity in the form of silos.
- (iii) Hiring is being undertaken by FCI through private warehousing scheme, 2010; and
- (iv) Efforts have been made for enhancing capacity utilization by increasing the stack size.

- (v) All precautions are taken by FCI to preserve the quality of foodgrains stored. Prophylactic and curative measures are carried out regularly for the control of insects/pests, rodents. This apart, regular quality checks are conducted to ensure proper preservation of foodgrains in storage. Adequate dunnage cleaning and disinfestation is done for the foodgrain stocks stored in CAP. To protect the CAP stocks from rain, sun, etc. each stack is covered with a polythene cover and properly tied. Wheat stocks stored in CAP by the State Govts/Agencies are also subjected to joint inspection on a regular basis by officers of FCI and the concerned State Govts/Agencies.

#### **River linking project**

\*219. SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether proposals for inclusion of certain rivers under the River Linking Project have been received from various States;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; till date;
- (c) the present status of the said proposals; and
- (d) whether Apex Court has expressed its serious concern over inordinate delay/cost escalation on previous NDA Government's proposal in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL):

(a) Yes Sir.

(b) NWDA has received 36 proposals of intra-state links from 7 States viz. Maharashtra, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Orissa, Bihar, Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu.

(c) Out of 36 proposals on intra-State links received, Pre-feasibility Reports (PFRs) of 21 intra-State links have been completed by NWDA. The details of intra-State link proposals received from the State Governments along with their status and target date of completion for PFRs is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(d) The Supreme Court in its order dated 27.02.2012 has not expressed any concern on Intra-State links. However, it has expressed its concern over delay in interlinking of rivers as envisaged in National Perspective Plan.