

of foodgrains. Silo bags storage system can be deployed at farm level, mandi level and in open fields. Although, hermetic storage of foodgrains is very old technique and has been used in different ways from a long-time. In India it is currently introduced in the form of polyethylene silo bags for storage of wheat. Silo bags are polyethylene bag with a measurement of 60 meters in length, 2.75 meters in diameter and 220 micron thickness. Its laminated plastic sheet is made of three layers of co-extruded polyethylene. The first two layers make the bag weather proof and act as a Ultra Violet (UV) filter and the third layer is black in colour and protects the grain from sunlight.

A Study to find out the suitability of Silo bags for the safe storage of wheat in open complex was undertaken by Indian Grain Storage Management and Research Institute (IGMRI), Hapur in FCI depots in Delhi and Punjab. The results after one year of storage of wheat of Rabi Marketing Season (RMS), 2011-12 in silo bags indicate that there was no variation in average moisture content in stored wheat and no live insects were observed in the silo bags. The overall grain quality was found good upto one year of storage period. The study has been extended for one more year and will complete in October, 2013.

Government of Madhya Pradesh has stored about 20,000 tonnes of wheat in silo bags at two locations during RMS 2012-13 on a pilot projects basis.

Evacuation of surplus rice from Odisha

2515. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that FCI is not taking adequate steps to evacuate the surplus rice from Odisha in spite of requests;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that procurement of rice and paddy suffered due to non-availability of required storage space in the State;
- (c) whether the State Government has requested for additional storage space for the above purpose; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) No, Sir. Food Corporation of India (FCI) is taking adequate steps to evacuate the surplus rice

from Odisha. In 2012-13, upto November 2012, FCI has moved 3.56 lakh tonnes of rice out of Odisha.

(b) No, Sir. As on 10.12.2012, FCI has received 7.22 lakh tonnes of surplus rice in Odisha, over and above State's Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) requirement and additional vacant space of 2 lakh tonnes was available with FCI for further acceptance of rice from State Government.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The proposal of the State Government has been considered by the High Level Committee (HLC) of FCI. Out of the overall approved capacity of 181.08 lakh tonnes under the PEG scheme, a godown capacity of 3.00 lakh tonnes has been approved for construction in Odisha by HLC and as on 30.11.2012, a capacity of 1.64 lakh tonnes has been created.

False procurement by transporters and paddy societies

†2516. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a scam regarding procurement of paddy has come to light in Chhattisgarh, wherein 59 thousand tonnes of paddy is found short due to false procurement by transporters and paddy societies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the persons found guilty in this whole episode and the action taken against them; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to recover Government funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) Chhattisgarh has adopted the Decentralised Procurement (DCP) Scheme under which the State undertakes the responsibility for procurement and distribution themselves. As reported by the State Government, in KMS 2011-12, 59.73 lakh tonnes of paddy was procured by cooperative societies under Price Support Scheme (PSS) and 59.38 lakh tonnes of paddy was transferred to Chhattisgarh State Co-operative Marketing Federation (C.G. MARKFED). The State Government is in the process

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.