

- (i) All godowns are to be constructed as per specifications.
- (ii) Foodgrains are to be stored by adopting proper scientific code of storage practices.
- (iii) Adequate dunnage materials such as wooden crates, bamboo mats, polythene sheets are to be used to check migration of moisture from the floor.
- (iv) Fumigation covers, nylon ropes, nets and insecticides for control of stored grain insect pests are to be provided in all the godowns.
- (v) Prophylactic (spraying of insecticides) and curative treatments (fumigation) are to be carried out regularly and timely in godowns for the control of stored grain insect pests.
- (vi) Effective rat control measures, both in covered godowns as well as in CAP storage are to be used.
- (vii) Foodgrains in 'Cover and Plinth' (CAP) storage are to be stored on elevated plinths and wooden crates are to be used as dunnage material. Stacks are to be properly covered with specifically fabricated low-density black polythene water-proof covers and tied with nylon ropes/nets.
- (viii) Regular periodic inspections of the stocks/godowns are to be undertaken by qualified and trained staff including senior officers.
- (ix) The principle of "First in First Out" (FIFO) is to be followed to the extent possible so as to avoid longer storage of foodgrains in godowns.
- (x) Only covered rail wagons are to be used for movement of foodgrains so as to avoid damage during transit.

Violation of accounting principles by audit firms

1444. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of companies and audit firms found guilty of violation of accounting principles and financial irregularities during the last three years and the current year;
- (b) the details of losses suffered by the exchequer due to such violations and irregularities during that period;

- (c) the names of companies and the details of action taken against them;
- (d) whether the accounting irregularities by Pricewaterhouse Coopers (PwC), earlier in Satyam and now in Nokia, has alerted Government for strict action against them;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Expenditure on social welfare by corporates

1445. PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that the corporate sector has a responsibility to promote social welfare;
- (b) whether promotion of healthcare and spreading and improving quality of education in the country is also its responsibility; and
- (c) if the answer to parts (a) and (b) above is in the affirmative, the details of the contribution of top 20 business houses of India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) to (c) At present there is no legal requirement for companies to undertake activities in pursuance of their corporate social responsibility (CSR). However, the Companies Bill, 2012, passed by the Lok Sabha, casts a responsibility on certain classes of companies to formulate a policy on CSR and to spend two per cent of their average net profit of the last three years on such activities. At present no data of such expenditure voluntarily undertaken by the companies is maintained. The National Foundation of Corporate Governance has, however, undertaken a study to assess CSR activities undertaken by ten companies selected from different regions and sector.

Payments for lobbying by Indian companies

1446. SHRI T. K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state: