

- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) what action is being taken to improve the storage facilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. FCI has been successfully handling the procurement, storage, movement and distribution of foodgrains. However, the stocks levels with FCI have risen considerably during the last few years due to heavy and open ended procurement.

To augment the covered storage capacity, Government is implementing the Private Entrepreneurs Guarantee (PEG) Scheme through private entrepreneurs, Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) and State Warehousing Corporations (SWCs). The FCI guarantees to hire godowns constructed under this scheme for a period of ten years, thereby, ensuring for the investor, a fair return on his investment. A capacity of about 197 lakh MTs as on 31.03.2013 has been approved for the construction of godowns in 19 States out of which a capacity of 140.73 lakh MTs has been sanctioned for construction. A capacity of 69.92 lakh MTs has been completed under the Scheme. For ensuring long-term scientific storage, the Government has also approved construction of 20 lakh MTs of storage capacity in silos within the overall sanctioned capacity of the PEG Scheme.

Besides the PEG Scheme, the Government has finalised a Plan scheme especially for the North East, for creation of an additional storage capacity of 5.40 lakh MTs through the FCI, in the next 3 to 4 years. These capacities once created in the NE region, would take care of the storage requirements of about 3 to 4 months.

Efficiency of PDS

2965. DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) what are the difficulties in making the Public Distribution System (PDS) efficient; and
- (b) the details of steps Government has taken during the last three years to overcome the difficulties?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS) : (a) and (b) Certain shortcomings/deficiencies have been noticed that hamper the efficient functioning of Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS). These relate to leakages/diversion of

foodgrains, inclusion/exclusion errors, existence of bogus/ineligible ration cards, non-viability of Fair Price Shop operations, etc.

Strengthening and streamlining of TPDS is a continuous process. Government has regularly reviewed and has issued instructions to States/UTs to strengthen functioning of TPDS by improving monitoring mechanism and vigilance, increased transparency in functioning of TPDS, adoption of revised Model Citizen's Charter, use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) tools and improving the viability of Fair Price Shop operations.

Government also regularly issues advisories to State/UT Governments and reviews their performance during meetings and conferences. Periodic reporting has been prescribed and utilization certificates for the foodgrains allocated are also obtained from the State/UT Governments.

Economic cost of wheat and rice

2966. SHRI SHANTA KUMAR : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the components that constitute the economic cost of wheat and rice the value of components per kilogram of wheat and rice for 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12;

(b) the components that constitute the carrying cost of foodgrains and the value of components per kilogram of foodgrains for that period; and

(c) the components which though are the part of overall food subsidy yet do not form part of either economic cost minus sale price/issue price or the carrying cost and the details of overall value of such components for that period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K. V. THOMAS) : (a) The components that constitute the economic cost of wheat and rice as well as its value per kilogram for the year 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 is given in Statement-I (*See below*).

(b) The components that constitute the carrying cost of foodgrains (wheat and rice) as well as the value of components per kilogram of foodgrains for 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 is given in Statement-II (*See below*).

(c) The components which though are the part of overall food subsidy yet do not form the part of either economic cost or the carrying cost for the years 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 is given in Statement-III.