

1	2	3	4	5
14.	Punjab	172.80	165.910	160.060
15.	Rajasthan	93.19	92.760	102.250
16.	Uttar Pradesh	302.93	303.020	294.950
17.	Uttarakhand	8.78	8.580	9.080
18.	West Bengal	8.72	8.960	9.240
19.	Others	1.06	0.840	0.840
TOTAL		948.82	935.07	956.03

*As per 2nd Advance Estimates of Department of Agriculture and Cooperation.

Creation of storage facilities through PPP mode

3027. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to create 150 lakh MT modern storage facilities through Public-Private-Partnership (PPP) mode;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is also considering warehouse receipt as negotiable instrument for better resource mobilization for farmers; 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) Yes, Madam.

(b) The Government has formulated a Private Entrepreneurs Guarantee (PEG) Scheme for creation of storage capacity mainly through Private Entrepreneurs, Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) and State Warehousing Corporations (SWCs)/State Agencies. Under this scheme, a capacity of 203.76 lakh MT has been approved for construction of godowns at various locations in 19 States. Out of this, tenders have been sanctioned for a capacity of 115.42 lakh MT to private investors through a transparent bidding system. Besides this, a capacity of 7.86 lakh MT and 29.65 lakh MT have been allotted to CWC and SWCs respectively for construction of godowns on their own land. Guarantee of hiring for 10 years is provided by FCI to Private Investors and 9 years to CWC/SWCs. A capacity of 92.55 lakh MT has already been completed and a capacity of 40.28 lakh MT is under construction.

In addition, modern storage facilities in the form of silos of 20 lakh MTs capacity is proposed to be created in 10 States through PPP mode. Capacity earmarked for silos is included in the capacities approved for the PEG Scheme. Currently, bids under Design, Build, Finance, Own and Operate (DBFOO) model for a capacity of 17.5 lakh MT in 36 locations across 9 States have been invited on 21.11.2013. The due date for receipt of the Requests for Qualification (RFQ) is 21.03.2014.

(c) and (d) Negotiable warehouse receipts have been introduced for better resource mobilization for farmers as per the provisions of the Warehousing (Development and Regulation) Act, 2007.

Under the Act, as on 18.02.2014 a total 378 warehouses have been registered with the Warehousing Development Regulatory Authority and a total of 4815 Negotiable Warehouse Receipts (NWRs) issued by the registered warehouses.

Plugging of loopholes in PDS

3028. SHRI N. BALAGANGA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether irregularities have been reported due to faulty implementation of PDS in some States;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of the monitoring mechanism available with Government to plug the loopholes in the existing system; and
- (d) what steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) There have been complaints about irregularities in the functioning of the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) in some States/regions of the country. These complaints *inter-alia* relate to leakage/diversion of foodgrains, inclusion/exclusion errors, etc. TPDS is operated under the joint responsibility of the Central and the State/UT Governments wherein the operational responsibilities for implementation of TPDS within the State/UT rest with the concerned State/UT Governments. Therefore, as and when complaints are received by the Government from individuals and organizations as well as through press reports, these are referred to the State/UT Governments concerned for inquiry and appropriate action.

(c) and (d) The strengthening and streamlining of TPDS is a continuous process. In order to maintain supplies and secure availability and distribution of essential commodities under the Public Distribution System, in exercise of the powers conferred