

Construction of godowns through PPP

1908. SHRI D.P. TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that thousands of metric tons of foodgrains became uneatable during last three years due to non-availability of proper storage by FCI and other Government agencies;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons that Government is not constructing godowns for proper storage through Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE): (a) and (b) No, Sir. There is no shortage of storage capacity in the country. Against the total foodgrain stocks of 610.37 lakh tons in central pool as on 1.7.2014, total storage capacity available with FCI and State agencies for storage is 762.87 lakh tons. During storage, scientific code of practices for safe storage of foodgrains are adopted. However, some quantity of foodgrains may get damaged during storage due to various reasons such as storage pest attack, leakages in godowns, procurement of poor quality stocks, spillage during movement and handling of foodgrains, exposure to rains, floods, negligence on the part of concerned persons in taking precautionary measures etc.

Details of foodgrains (wheat and rice) accrued as damaged during last three years and current year in Food Corporation of India (FCI) is as under:

Year	Accrual of damaged/non-issueable foodgrains (in lakh tons)	Percentage (%) against offtake from FCI
2011-12	0.033	0.007
2012-13	0.031	0.006
2013-14	0.247	0.047
2014-15 (as on 1.6.2014)	0.017	0.025

(c) The Government is developing godown capacity in Public Private Partnership (PPP) Mode under the ongoing Private Entrepreneurs Guarantee (PEG) scheme. Under the scheme, the Food Corporation of India (FCI) gives guarantee of ten years of assured

hiring to private entrepreneurs. In all, a capacity of 203.76 lakh tons have been approved for construction of godowns in 19 States under the scheme, out of which 20 lakh tons capacity is earmarked for construction of Silos. A total capacity of 120.30 lakh tons has been completed under the scheme including 91.77 lakh tons by private investors as on 30.6.2014.

National Food Security Act

†1909. SHRI ISHWARLAL SHANKARLAL JAIN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the two-thirds population in all the States of the country have been given the right to affordable food under the National Food Security Act (NFSA) and they have begun to draw ration under the same;

(b) whether the Act not yet been implemented in some of the States;

(c) whether Central Government has issued directives or order to the States in this regard;

(d) whether Government is making efforts to address many other issues like controlling food prices; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE): (a) to (c) The National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) provides for coverage of upto 75% of the rural population and upto 50% of the urban population of the country for receiving foodgrains at subsidized prices under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), thus covering about two thirds of the population.

The Act has deemed to have come into force on 05.07.2013. It *inter-alia* provides for a period not exceeding 365 days to the States/Union Territories (UTs) for identification of eligible households for receiving subsidized foodgrains under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS). So far, allocation of foodgrains to 11 States/UTs has started under the Act based on their preparedness and identification of beneficiaries under TPDS reported by them. States/UT of Uttarakhand, Assam and Lakshadweep have also reported completion of identification of beneficiaries. Remaining States/UTs have been requested to complete the identification at the earliest and ensure implementation of the Act within next three months, after completing other preparatory measures.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.