

Paddy will be classified into Grade 'A' and 'Common' groups.

Schedule of specification

Sl. No.	Refractious	Maximum Limit (%)
1.	Foreign matter	
	(a) Inorganic	1.0
	(b) Organic	1.0
2.	Damaged, discoloured, sprouted and weevilled grains	5.0*
3.	Immature, Shrunken and shrivelled grains	3.0
4.	Admixture of lower class	6.0
5.	Moisture content	17.0

* Damaged, sprouted and weevilled grains should not exceed 4%.

- N.B.** 1. The definitions of the above refractions and method of analysis are to be followed as per BIS 'Method of analysis for foodgrains' Nos. IS:4333 (Part-I): 1996, IS: 4333 (Part-II): 2002 and 'Terminology for foodgrains' IS:Nos. 2813-1995, as amended from time to time.
2. The method of sampling is to be followed as per BIS method for sampling of Cereals and Pulses IS:14818-2000 as amended from time to time.
3. Within the overall limit of 1.0% for organic foreign matter, poisonous seeds shall not exceed 0.5% of which Dhatura and Akra seeds (Vicia species) not to exceed 0.025% and 0.2% respectively.

Storage capacity of foodgrains

194. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that large quantity of foodgrains are rotting due to lack of storage facilities in the country, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details of the storage capacity that is available now *vis-a-vis* required to store foodgrains with the FCI and others hired by FCI; and

(c) the steps taken by Government for proper storage of foodgrains?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) No, Sir. No foodgrains are rotting due to lack of storage facilities in the country.

(b) The total storage capacity with FCI and State agencies for storage of central pool stocks as on 01.04.2015 was 709.22 lakh MT. The total stock of foodgrains held in central pool as on 01.04.2015 was 343.15 lakh MT. The total stock of rice and wheat in the Central Pool during the year 2014-15 ranged from a peak of 622 lakh

MT on 01.06.2014 to a low of 348 lakh MT on 01.03.2015. Thus, on the overall, there is sufficient capacity for stocking the Central Pool foodgrains.

(c) For proper storage and management of foodgrains, the following steps are being taken:

1. FCI maintains a close and regular liaison with the State Governments, Railways and other agencies for effective coordination in procurement, stocking, transportation and distribution of the foodgrains.
2. Normal precautions like cleaning, proper stacking, spraying of insecticide, fumigation, pests control, inspection and surveillance are taken during storage to maintain quality of the foodgrains.
3. Augmenting of storage capacity by FCI.

Procurement of foodgrains by FCI

195. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the FCI has reduced procurement of foodgrains in the recent past, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(b) the details of procurement made by FCI during the last two years, State-wise and year-wise;

(c) whether it is a fact that the private parties are allowed to procure foodgrains; and

(d) if so, the details of the names of such private parties, quantities and the rate at which they are procured, during each of the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) Food Corporation of India (FCI) /State Agencies procure all the foodgrains conforming to the prescribed specifications at the Minimum Support Price (MSP) offered for sale at specified centers by the farmers. Under Decentralized Procurement (DCP) Scheme, State Governments themselves procure, store and distribute foodgrains under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and Other Welfare Schemes (OWS). If the stocks of the foodgrains procured by the State Government exceeds its allocation under TPDS and other Welfare Schemes, such excess stocks are taken by the Food Corporation of India (FCI). In Non-DCP States, FCI undertakes procurement of wheat or paddy as per plan prepared by the State Government and purchase centres assigned to FCI. In the case of paddy procured by the State Agencies in Non-DCP States, the rice derived from it is directly received by FCI only. Thus, with increase in the procurement of