

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UT	Rural	Urban
30.	West Bengal	74.47	47.55
31.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	29.94	1.70
32.	Daman and Diu	26.66	56.47
33.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1.83	1.60
34.	Lakshadweep	35.30	33.56
35.	Chandigarh	38.54	47.26
36.	Puduchery	59.68	46.94
	ALL INDIA	75.00	50.00

Online monitoring of FCI

†1404. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is working on any plan to bring the wastage of foodgrains at zero level during storage;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the progress made in this regard so far;
- (c) whether Depot-online service has been started for monitoring the functions of Food Corporation of India (FCI); and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and by when it is proposed to make all depots of FCI online?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) Government has drawn action plan to keep the damages and storage loss to bare minimum. Major action points in this regards are as under:

1. Foodgrains are procured for Central Pool by Food Corporation of India (FCI) and State Governments/agencies conforming to uniform specifications formulated by the Government and are stored in covered godowns as well as in CAP (cover and plinth).

2. Efforts are made to minimize storage of foodgrains in CAP storage and not to use unscientific (katcha) plinths.
3. Damage Monitoring Cells have been setup at Districts/Regional/Zonal levels in FCI to monitor quality of stocks regularly and to reduce damages.
4. In order to increase covered storage capacity, Government formulated Private Entrepreneurs Guarantee (PEG) Scheme for construction of storage capacity through Private Entrepreneurs, CWC, SWCs and other State Agencies. A capacity of 134.83 Lakh tons has been completed as on 30.06.2016 under this scheme. Government has approved the action plan for construction of 100 lakh tons silos across the country in a phased manner.
5. Steps taken for safe storage and preservations of foodgrains to avoid damage during storage are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) and (d) Yes Sir, Depot Online System was launched on 17th March, 2016. As on 20.07.2016, depot online system has been operationalised in 377 depots of FCI.

Statement

Details of steps taken for safe storage and preservation of foodgrains

- (i) All godowns are constructed as per specifications.
- (ii) Foodgrains are stored by adopting proper scientific code of storage practices.
- (iii) Adequate dunnage materials such as wooden crates, bamboo mats, polythene sheets are used to check migration of moisture from the floor to the foodgrains.
- (iv) Fumigation covers, nylon ropes, nets and insecticides for control of stored grain insect pests are provided in all the godowns.
- (v) Prophylactic (spraying of insecticides) and curative treatments (fumigation) are 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 used.
- (vii) Foodgrains in CAP storage are stored on elevated plinths and wooden crates are used as dunnage material. Stacks are 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 undertaken by qualified and trained staff and senior officers. The health of the foodgrains is monitored at regular intervals by a system of checks and super checks at different levels. Following Checks and Super checks are conducted in the godowns by FCI to ensure proper preservation of foodgrains in the storage.
- (a) Fortnightly inspection of stocks on 100% basis by Technical Assistant.
 - (b) Monthly inspection by Manager (QC)
 - (c) Quarterly inspection by AGM (QC)
 - (d) Super Checks by Regional, Zonal and FCI Hqrs Squads.
- (ix) The principle of "First in First Out" (FIFO) is followed to the extent possible so as to avoid longer storage of foodgrains in godowns.
- (x) Only covered rail wagons are used for movement of foodgrains so as to avoid damage during transit.
- (xi) Installation of CCTV Camera in the depots and barbed wires fencing of boundary walls, provision of street lights in the godowns/complexes and proper locking of the sheds.
- (xii) Security staff of FCI as well as other agencies like Home Guards and Special Police Officers are deployed for safety of stocks.
- (xiii) Deployment of State Armed Police has been done at vulnerable depots/godowns in the prone area.
- (xiv) Security Inspection as well as surprise checks of the depots are being conducted from time to time at various levels to detect and plug any security lapses.

Rise in prices of oilseeds and pulses

†1405. SHRI PRAMOD TIWARI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken by Government to control the prices of pulses and oilseeds keeping in view the fast increase in their prices in the country; and
- (b) by when the prices of pulses and oilseeds would be made affordable to common man?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.