

- (a) whether there has been a decline in the procurement of wheat by FCI;
- (b) if so, the decline in procurement in metric tonnes and the reserve stock available with FCI in 2017 as compared to 2016; and
- (c) the volume of wheat procured in 2015-16 and 2016-17, respectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C.R. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (c) The procurement of wheat by Food Corporation of India (FCI) along with State Government/agencies during last three years and current year is as under:-

[Fig. in Lakh Metric Tonne (LMT)]

Rabi Marketing Season (RMS)	Wheat Procured
2013-14	250.92
2014-15	280.23
2015-16	280.88
2016-17	229.61

There was a decline of 51.27 LMT in wheat procurement during RMS 2016-17 compared to RMS 2015-16, mainly due to proactive buying by private traders at rates above the Minimum Support Price (MSP).

The total stock of wheat held in Central Pool as on 1st January, 2016, was 237.88 LMT as compared to 137.47 LMT as on 1st January, 2017.

Stagnation in storage capacity of FCI

1824. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the storage capacity of Food Corporation of India (FCI) is almost stagnant over the last few years;
- (b) if so, the details of storage capacity that has been augmented during the last five years; and
- (c) whether Government has any proposal to tide over the constraints being faced in public sector storage capacity, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C.R. CHAUDHARY): (a) Yes, Sir. The capacity of

godowns directly owned by Food Corporation of India (FCI) has remained more or less same during last few years. This is due to the policy decision of the Government to augment capacity in Public Private Partnerships (PPP) mode under Private Entrepreneurs Guarantee (PEG) scheme, where the godowns constructed by private parties/other agencies are dedicated for FCI for 9 to 10 years for storage of foodgrains. Secondly, FCI has eliminated hired capacity of Cover and Plinth (CAP) storage facilities. However, FCI's own godowns are being constructed under Plan scheme specifically in the North Eastern States and a few other States.

The comparative position of storage capacity with FCI for 31.03.2012 and 31.01.2017 is given below:-

(Figures in Lakh MT)

As on	Owned			Hired			TOTAL		
	Covered	CAP	Total	Covered	CAP	Total	Covered	CAP	Total
31.3.12	130.03	26.37	156.40	172.13	7.51	179.64	302.16	33.88	336.04
31.1.17	128.19	26.02	154.21	196.14	0.00	196.14	324.33	26.02	350.35
Increase	-1.84	-0.35	-2.19	24.01	-7.51	16.50	22.17	-7.86	14.31

As shown above, the capacity of hired godowns has increased by 24.01 Lakh MT, which is the net effect of construction of new godowns under PEG scheme and de-hiring of earlier hired godowns. The decrease of owned godowns capacity by 1.84 Lakh MT is due to writing off inoperative/defunct storage capacities (2.05 Lakh MT) and surrender of 1.17 Lakh MT capacity to Mumbai Port Trust after expiry of lease period, although new godowns of 1.38 Lakh MT capacity were constructed under Plan Scheme.

(b) The details of storage capacity augmented during the last five years including current year are given below:-

(in Lakh MT)

Year	Under Plan Scheme	Under PEG Scheme
2012-13	0.03	40.66
2013-14	0.23	49.88
2014-15	0.43	8.30
2015-16	0.65	6.56
2016-17 (upto Jan,2017)	0.04	2.56
TOTAL	1.38	107.96

In addition, during last 5 years silos of capacity 4.5 LMT at 9 locations have been built by State of Madhya Pradesh.

(c) Storage of foodgrains is being managed by FCI as well as State agencies (in decentralized procurement States). On the basis of peak stock requirement during procurement season, the overall storage capacity required in the country is about 600 Lakh MT. Against this, the total capacity available with Food Corporation of India (FCI) and State Agencies for storage of foodgrains as on 31.01.2017 was 775.74 lakh MT.

Thus, there is overall sufficient capacity for storage of foodgrains.

Printing of consumer helpline and complaint number on packaged food items

1825. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to make it mandatory for all packaged food items to have consumer helpline number and complaint number printed on their packaging details;

(b) if so, by when Government is planning to do so; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C.R. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (c) Under sub-rule (2) of Rule 6 of the Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 2011, there is an already existing provision for declaration of consumer care details as follows:—

"(2) Every package shall bear the name, address, telephone number, e-mail address of the person who can be or the office which can be contacted, in case of consumer complaints".

Release of funds to Rajasthan under NFSS

1826. SHRI HARSHVARDHAN SINGH DUNGARPUR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds released under Central Share for distribution of foodgrain under National Food Security Scheme in 2015-16, State-wise:

(b) whether Government has received any proposal from Government of Rajasthan