

- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB DADARAO): (a) to (d) Against total stocks of 741.41 LMT (as on 01.06.2019), the total storage capacity available with Food Corporation of India (FCI), Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) and the State Agencies (both owned and hired capacity), is 862.45 LMT (as on 31.05.2019) comprising 739.76 LMT in covered godowns and 122.69 LMT in Cover and Plinth (CAP) storage. As such, there is sufficient capacity for storage of central pool foodgrains at the national level.

However, depending on requirement in specific areas and for modernization of storage facilities, Government implements the following schemes with private participation for construction of godowns and silos in the country for central pool stock of foodgrains:—

- (i) **Private Entrepreneurs Guarantee (PEG) Scheme:** Under this Scheme, which was formulated in 2008, storage capacity is created by private parties, CWC and State Government Agencies for guaranteed hiring by FCI. A capacity of 142.62 Lakh MT (LMT) has been created as on 31.05.2019. Under this scheme, no funds are allocated by Government for construction of godowns and full investment is done by the private parties/CWC/State Agencies. After a godown is constructed and taken over by FCI, storage charges are paid to the investor for the guaranteed period of 9/10 years irrespective of the quantum of foodgrains stored.
- (ii) **Construction of Steel Silos:** In addition to conventional godowns, Government of India has also approved an action plan for construction of steel silos in the country for a capacity of 100 LMT in Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode for modernizing storage infrastructure and improving shelf life of stored foodgrains. Against this, as on 31.05.2019, steel silos of 6.75 LMT capacity have been created. The Concession period for silos constructed under non-Viability Gap Funding (non-VGF) model is 32 years, while in case of Viability Gap Funding model it is 30 years for wheat silos and is 31.5 years for composite silos (wheat and rice).

Pricing crisis faced by potato growing farmers

2313. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that on many occasions potato growing farmers do not bother to even come to a cold storage to take delivery of their commodity, since the transport cost would be higher than what the produce would fetch in the market;

(b) if so, the details of factors that are contributing to the pricing crisis of potato growing farmers in the country; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to save them from pricing crisis, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI RAMESWAR TELI): (a) and (b) It has come to notice of Government that on some occasion, potato growing farmers did not take the delivery from the cold storage due to pricing crisis. The pricing crisis is due to several factors such as bumper production of the potato in the region, lack of processing facilities and export opportunity.

(c) In pursuance to budget announcement for the year 2018-19, Ministry has launched a new central sector scheme "Operation Greens – a scheme for integrated development of Tomato, Onion and Potato (TOP) value chain" with a budgetary allocation of ₹ 500 crores in November, 2018. The scheme has following two-pronged strategies:–

(I) Price Stabilisation Measures (for short term)

During the glut situation, when the prices fall below preceding 3-years average market price at the time of harvest, to evacuate surplus production from the producing area to the consumption centres, the following measures will be taken:–

- (i) Transportation of TOP crops from surplus to deficit markets
- (ii) Hiring of appropriate storage facilities, including cold storage

For this 50% of cost of transportation and 50% of cost of hiring appropriate storage facilities are applicable as subsidy at the time of harvest. NAFED is the nodal agency for disbursement of subsidy under this component to the eligible organisation.

(II) Integrated value chain development projects (for long term): This consist of the following components:–

- (i) Capacity Building of FPOs and their consortium
- (ii) Quality production
- (iii) Post-harvest processing facilities
- (iv) Agri-Logistics
- (v) Marketing/consumption Points

For this, applicable grant-in-aid is at the rate of 50% (70% in case of FPOs) of the eligible project cost in all areas, subject to maximum of ₹ 50 crores per project.

Further, the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Government of India is implementing the Market Intervention Scheme (MIS), which is a price support mechanism implemented on the request of State Governments for procurement of perishable and horticultural commodities in the event of a fall in market prices. The Scheme is implemented when there is at least 10% increase in production or 10% decrease in the ruling rates over the previous normal year. Its objective is to protect the growers of these horticultural/agricultural commodities from making distress sale in the event of bumper crop during the peak arrival period when prices fall to very low level. Thus it provides remunerative prices to the farmers in case of glut in production and fall in prices.

In addition, Mission for Integrated Development for Horticulture (MIDH), a Centrally Sponsored Scheme is being implemented with effect from 2014-15, for holistic growth of the horticulture sector covering fruits, vegetables, roots and tuber crops, mushrooms, spices, flowers, aromatic plants, coconut, cocoa and bamboo. All States and UTs are covered under MIDH. Assistance is also extended for establishment of infrastructure relating to cold chain management viz. pre-cooling units, on farm pack houses, mobile pre-cooling units, staging cold rooms, cold storage units, integrated cold chain supply system, refrigerated vans/containers, primary/mobile processing units, ripening chambers, evaporative/low energy cool chambers, preservation units etc. under Integrated Post Harvest Management component of MIDH subsidy is provided as credit linked back-ended subsidy @ 35% of cost of project in general areas and 50% of cost in case of Hilly and Scheduled areas for individual entrepreneurs.

Implementation of PMKSY in Bihar

†2314. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether under the Pradhan Mantri Kisan SAMPADA Yojana (PMKSY), Government has decided to ensure that the produce of the farmers do not suffer any loss before it reaches the market and also to prevent wastage of agricultural produce;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.