

Affairs notified the Direct Selling Guidelines, 2016 in the Gazette of India on 26.10.2016 as guiding principles for State Governments to consider regulating the business of direct selling and multi-level marketing and strengthen the existing regulatory mechanism on direct selling and multi-level marketing for preventing fraud and protecting the legitimate rights and interests of consumers. State Governments/Union Territories, being enforcement agencies, may take necessary action to implement these guidelines. In terms of the Direct Selling Guidelines, 2016, State Governments will set up a mechanism to monitor/supervise the activities of direct sellers, direct selling entities regarding compliance with the guidelines. Besides, the Consumer Protection Bill, 2019 has been introduced in Lok Sabha on 8th July, 2019 which seeks to provide the measures to be taken by the Central Government to prevent unfair trade practices in direct selling.

(c) and (d) In terms of the Direct Selling Guidelines, 2016, no person or entity will participate in money circulation scheme in the garb of direct selling business. Ministry of Finance, Department of Financial Services has intimated that there is no information available with them that law enforcement agencies are wrongfully booking genuine direct selling firms under the Prize Chits and Money Circulation Scheme (Banning) Act, 1978.

#### **Lack of proper storage facilities for foodgrains**

3890. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that foodgrains are wasted every year during the rainy season due to lack of proper storage facilities, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the action plan prepared by Government to deal with the said problem;
- (c) whether Government has fixed any accountability in this regard, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the foodgrain storage capacity of public and private sector godowns separately in the country at present; and
- (e) the total quantum of foodgrains stored in these godowns at present alongwith the storage capacity lying unused?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB DADARAO): (a) No wastage/

damage of Central Pool Foodgrains (wheat & rice) stored in godowns of Food Corporation of India (FCI) can be directly attributed due to lack of proper storage facilities during rainy season.

(b) and (c) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(d) As on 30.06.2019, storage capacity available with FCI for Central Pool Stock is 407.31 Lakh MT (Owned - 153.35 LMT and Hired 253.96 LMT). In addition, 471.24 Lakh MT (Covered - 365.50 LMT and Cover & Plinth (CAP) - 105.74 LMT) is utilized by State Governments for keeping Central Pool Stock.

(e) As on 01.07.2019 a quantity of 742.52 lakh MT Central Pool stock is stored in FCI godowns (both owned and hired).

The capacity utilization in FCI godowns varies from month to month depending on the level of procurement and movement of the foodgrains.

#### **Development of rural household storage facilities**

3891. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether around 40 per cent of the foodgrains produced by farmers is wasted every year owing to poor storage and supply mechanism;

(b) if so, the steps being taken to prevent the perishing of foodgrains not procured by Government agencies like Food Corporation of India and NAFED;

(c) the reasons for not developing rural household storage facilities by using the latest technology developed by IGMRI, Hapur on the lines of rural household toilets; and

(d) the reasons for not setting-up grain banks in every district to procure grains from farmers at assured MSPs for storage to meet any contingency situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB DADARAO): (a) No, Sir. As per the study report of Central Institute of Post Harvest Engineering and Technology (CIPHET), an Institute under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), based on survey conducted during the year 2013-14, the annual harvest and post-harvest losses of major food grains ranges from 4.65 to 5.99%. The details are given in Statement-I (*See below*).