

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2318
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17TH DECEMBER, 2021

WASTAGE OF FOODGRAINS

2318 SHRI KAMAKHYA PRASAD TASA:
DR. KANIMOZHI NVN SOMU:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether huge quantity of foodgrains, pulses and perishable items gets rotten/wasted/spoiled every year due to shortage of godowns, lack of scientific and proper storing technology in FCI and warehouses of CWC, if so, whether any accountability has been fixed for these losses/damages, the details of last five years;
- (b) steps taken and target fixed to reduce wastage;
- (c) whether Government has invited scientific communities and expertise in building storage capacity and funds allocated in this regard;
- (d) if so, details thereof;
- (e) whether any new warehouses have been constructed during last one year using scientific methodology; and
- (f) if so, details thereof?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI)

(a): No Sir. No quantity of Central Pool Foodgrain stocks (wheat and rice) gets rotten/wasted/spoiled due to shortage of godowns/lack of scientific and proper storing technology in FCI and CWC.

(b): Steps taken by the Government to prevent wastage of foodgrains are at Annexure.

(c) & (d): Yes Sir. The Central Institute of Post Harvest Engineering and Technology (CIPHET) provides demonstrations and hands on trainings to farmers, entrepreneurs and self-help groups engaged in agriculture and other related activities to create awareness of post-harvest technology. Many storage technologies were licensed to farmers at nominal cost.

(e) & (f): 2.35 LMT of storage capacity has been created during the last one year.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b) OF THE UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2318 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 17.12.2021 IN RAJYA SABHA.

Steps taken by the Government to prevent wastage of foodgrains are as under:

- (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 are taken.
- (vii) Foodgrains in 'Cover and Plinth' (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 all senior officers. The health of the foodgrains is monitored at regular intervals by a system of checks and super checks at different levels.
- (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) Identify & repair all the leakage point in the roof is done periodically.
- (xii) Cleaning of drainages in the godown premises ensured.
- (xiii) Ensure no seepage inside the godowns.
- (xiv) No clogging up of water in the premises.
