

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1463
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 29/07/2022

POST HARVEST STORAGE OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE

1463. SHRI VIJAY PAL SINGH TOMAR:
DR. ANIL SUKHDEORAO BONDE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether post harvest storage of agricultural produce is a big problem for the farmers in the country, especially in Maharashtra with the increase in production of foodgrains;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the corrective steps taken by Government in this regard during the last three years; and
- (c) the effective steps taken by Government to prevent damage of foodgrains due to natural calamities such as floods, drought and frost?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) to (c): The Government is implementing Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure (AMI), a sub-scheme of Integrated Scheme for Agricultural Marketing (ISAM) under which assistance is provided for construction/ renovation of godowns/ warehouses in the rural areas in the States to enhance the storage capacity for agriculture produce. Under the scheme, Government provides subsidy at the rate of 25% and 33.33% on capital cost of the project based on the category of eligible beneficiary. Assistance is available to Individuals, Farmers, Group of farmers/growers, Agripreneurs, Registered Farmer Produce Organizations (FPOs), Cooperatives, and state agencies etc. The scheme is demand driven.

Since 01.04.2001 and up to 30.06.2022, a total of 41,452 storage infrastructure projects (Godowns), with storage capacity of 725.7 Lakh MT have been sanctioned under AMI sub-scheme in the country which includes 3711 projects in Maharashtra State.

Further, Government has approved a new central sector scheme of financing facility viz., Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF) of Rs. 1,00,000 Crore to provide a medium-long term loan facility for investment in viable projects for post-harvest market infrastructure including warehousing facility and community farming assets through interest subvention and financial support. Under the above scheme, a total number of 9516 applications for warehouse facilities have been sanctioned for a total amount of Rs. 7618 Cr., out of which a total number of 637 applications has been sanctioned for an amount of Rs. 423.4 Cr. in the State of Maharashtra.

The following steps have been taken by the Government to prevent damage of food grains due to natural calamities, such as floods, drought and frost :-

- i. Government is implementing Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure (AMI), a sub-scheme of Integrated Scheme for Agricultural Marketing (ISAM) to create scientific warehouses.
- ii. Government is also implementing, Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF) to provide medium to long term financing facilities for creation of post-harvest management infrastructure and community farming assets. The scheme aims at developing Agri-infrastructure at farm gate level in order to reduce post-harvest losses, to enhance productivity, improve resource utilization, technology adoption, better price realization and accessibility of market to the farmers.
- iii. Further, the Government of India is implementing several schemes/ programmes to address the need for drought mitigation and other requirements of the farmers under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) etc.
