

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 976
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 10/02/2023

PLANS TO MINIMISE POST HARVEST LOSSES

976. SHRI AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH:

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

- (a) the year-wise details regarding post harvest losses during the last five years;
- (b) the sector-wise details regarding post harvest losses during the last five years;
- (c) whether Government has devised any plans to minimise post harvest losses, organize supply chains and provide aid to farmers due to heatwave;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the steps taken to improve food supply chains during the last five years?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): As per the information received from Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), the latest study was commissioned by Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) through NABARD Consultancy Service Pvt. Ltd (NABCONS) on “Study to determine post-harvest Losses of Agri produce in India*” (2022). As per the report, post-harvest losses of major crops and commodities are as follows:-

Crops/ Commodities	Loss (%)
Cereals	3.89-5.92
Pulses	5.65-6.74
Oil Seeds	2.87-7.51
Fruits	6.02-15.05
Vegetables	4.87-11.61
Plantation Crops & Spices	1.29-7.33
Milk	0.87
Fisheries (Inland)	4.86
Fisheries (Marine)	8.76
Meat	2.34
Poultry	5.63
Egg	6.03

**The year-wise post harvest losses were not reported in the study.*

(c) to (f): The following steps have been taken by the Government to minimize post harvest losses, organize and improve supply chains and provide aid to farmers due to heatwave:

- i. Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (DA&FW) is implementing 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.
- ii. DA&FW is implementing Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) for holistic development of horticulture sector to increase the post-harvest management infrastructure and reduce post-harvest losses in the country, under which financial assistance is provided for various horticulture activities including setting up of pack houses, cold storages, reefer transport, ripening chamber, primary processing etc.
- iii. DA&FW is implementing Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure (AMI), a sub-scheme of Integrated Scheme for Agricultural Marketing (ISAM) under which assistance is provided for construction of warehouses in the rural areas in the States to enhance the storage capacity for agriculture produce.
- iv. Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) is implementing Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY) with the objective of reducing post-harvest losses of horticulture and non-horticulture produce and providing remunerative price to farmers for their produce.
- v. Ministry of Railways is implementing Kisan Rail Scheme to enable the speedy movement of perishables including fruits, vegetables, meat, poultry, fishery and dairy products from production surplus regions to consumption or deficit regions.
- vi. DA&FW is implementing Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) and Restructured Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (RWBCIS), to provide financial support and claims against the crop yield losses due to natural risks/ calamities, adverse weather conditions, pests and diseases etc. Both the schemes are voluntary for States and farmers.
- vii. The ICAR-CIPHET regularly conducts training & skill development programmes for stake holders including Govt. functionaries and transfers knowledge for reduction of losses during storage of different commodities. Studies conducted for FCI & DOCA have helped in development of scientific protocols for procurement & storage of Rice, Wheat, Pulses etc.
