

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.196
TO BE ANSWERED ON 4TH FEBRUARY, 2025

**QUALITY CONTROL AND COMPLIANCE IN FOOD GRAIN
DISTRIBUTION AND STORAGE**

196 DR. FAUZIA KHAN:

Will the Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has identified gaps in the current quality control mechanisms within the Food Corporation of India (FCI), particularly regarding the testing of uric acid and aflatoxin in major procuring States;
- (b) if so, the detail of corrective actions taken; and
- (c) whether Government has introduced new protocols to enhance quality control during procurement and storage, ensuring compliance with FSSAI standards, and whether thirdparty assessments of damaged food grains have been incorporated?

A N S W E R
MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS,
FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRIMATI NIMUBEN JAYANTIBHAI BAMBHANIYA)

(a) and (b): The Food Corporation of India (FCI) has well defined quality control mechanisms. The quality of the procured foodgrains is monitored at regular intervals by a system of checks and super checks at different levels.

In order to ensure quality of foodgrains, samples of foodgrain procured & stored in FCI godowns are periodically referred to Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) notified National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL) accredited labs (Third party) for chemical testing like chemical residues including Aflatoxin, Uric Acid, DON etc.

(c): A Quality Management System (QMS) has been developed and implemented by FCI to ensure the quality control of foodgrains during procurement and storage in view to ensuring the compliance with FSSAI standards. 11 Quality Control Cells of DFPD are regularly conducting sampling and testing of foodgrains from warehouses of FCI and State agencies to ensure compliance of Uniform Specification as notified by Government of India for each crop season.
