

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2419  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 3<sup>RD</sup> AUGUST, 2021**

**STORING OF FOODGRAINS**

**2419. DR. T. SUMATHY (A) THAMIZHACHI THANGAPANDIAN:**

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken adequate steps to store, preserve and protect the food grains, pulses, fast perishable items etc., in the country and also to reduce annual wastage of food grains and farm produces due to lack of scientific and proper storing technology;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the wastage of food grains and farm produce assessed in the last five years;
- (c) whether the Government has invited scientific communities and expertise in building capacity storage facilities to reduce wastage of food grains during storage and transit; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the funds allocated in the last five years in this regard?

**A N S W E R**

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

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(a): No wastage of central pool foodgrain stocks (wheat & rice) stored in godowns can be directly attributed to lack of scientific and proper storing technology. However, in respect of fast perishable items, wastage is directly linked to lack of scientific & proper storage facilities.

(b): Steps taken by the Government to store preserve and protect the foodgrains are enclosed at annexure.

Inspite of all precautionary measures a meagre quantity of foodgrains accrue as damaged/become non-issuable mainly due to Natural Calamities like Cyclone/Flood/Rain, during transit, contamination and wagon roof leakage.

The details on the quantity of foodgrains (rice & wheat) which got damaged in godowns of Food Corporation of India (FCI) during last five years are as under:

Year	Quantity Handled(Offtake) (In Lakh MT)	Damage accrued in FCI(Fig in LMT)	% age of damaged foodgrains w.r.t quantity handled (offtake)
2016-17	473.31	0.09	0.019
2017-18	452.16	0.027	0.006
2018-19	500.08	0.05	0.010
2019-20	455.126	0.02	0.004
2020-21	688.57	0.02	0.003

The Central Institute of Post Harvest Engineering and Technology (CIPHET) has conducted two studies in 2005-07 and 2013-14 on “Assessment of Quantitative Harvest and Post-Harvest Losses of Major Crops/Commodities in India”. As per the study report (2013-14), the harvest and post-harvest losses of major food grains & oil seeds ranged from 3.08 to about 10%, fruits from 6.70% to 15.88% and vegetables 4.58 % to 12.44% respectively.

Under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) financial assistance is provided for creation of Post-harvest Management (PHM) infrastructure for perishable horticulture produce including setting up of cold storage facilities. The component is demand/entrepreneur driven for which Government assistance in the form of credit linked back ended subsidy is available at the rate of 35% of the eligible project cost in general areas and at the rate of 50% of the eligible project cost in hilly and scheduled areas through respective State Horticulture Mission.

(c): Yes Sir.

(d): 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. Central Institute of Agricultural Engineering, Bhopal has also conducted training programmes related to Advanced Storage/Transportation Techniques for agro produce for different stakeholders.

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