

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 59
TO BE ANSWERED ON 2nd February, 2021

REQUIREMENT AND AVAILABILITY OF FOODGRAINS

59. SHRI MANOJ KOTAK:

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

- (a) the details of the requirement and availability of foodgrains along with the present storage of food grains in the State of Maharashtra;
- (b) the percentage of foodgrains getting damaged, rotten and stolen during storage and transportation and the measures taken by the Government to prevent the loss of food grains due to these reasons;
- (c) whether foodgrains are being damaged more due to open storage and shortage of warehouses; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken by Government to provide warehouses in adequate number and safe storage?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB DADARAO)

(a) The detail of the requirement, availability of foodgrains and sufficiency i.r.o. of Maharashtra as on 31.12.2020 is as under :

Commodity	Requirement/ month in MT	availability of foodgrain	Sufficiency for months
Wheat	242867	1071106	4.4
Rice	223067	477086	2.1
Total	465934	1548192	3.3

Sufficient stocks have been maintained in Maharashtra Region for ensuring smooth supply of foodgrains to PDS. Stocks are being replenished regularly from surplus States like Punjab, Haryana and M.P.

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(b): The percentage of foodgrains getting Non-issuable (damaged) in FCI during storage and transportation due to various reasons is tabulated below:

Year	% of Damaged foodgrain against offtake quantity
2017-18	0.006
2018-19	0.01
2019-20	0.004
2020-21 (as on 31-12-20)	0.0030

Steps taken by FCI to preserve the quality of procured foodgrains to avoid damage is at Annexure-I.

(c): No damage of foodgrains in FCI occurred in open storage and due to shortage of godowns during the last three years and current year.

(d): FCI continuously assesses and monitors the storage capacity and based on the requirement and storage gap assessment, storage capacities are created/hired under following schemes :-

(i) Private Entrepreneurs Guarantee (PEG)

Government of India has formulated a scheme called Private Entrepreneurs Guarantee (PEG) Scheme for construction of covered storage capacity. Under this Scheme, storage capacity is created by private parties, CWC, SWCs and other State Agencies for guaranteed hiring by FCI. Under this scheme, a capacity of 5.63 lakh MT has been constructed as on 31.12.2020 in Maharashtra.

(ii) Construction of SILO's

Steel Silo storage with bulk handling facility is highly efficient, mechanized and modernized way of storing foodgrains in bulk. It ensures better preservation of foodgrains and enhances its shelf life. If foodgrains are stored in silos and transported in bulk, losses due to theft, pilferage and transportation would be negligible compared to foodgrains storage in bags in conventional warehouses. Moreover, silos can be operated round the clock which brings in flexibility and improve overall efficiency. All these silos are being developed in PPP (Public Private Partnership) mode.

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Accordingly, in order to upgrade and modernize the storage facilities, Government of India has chalked out an Action Plan for construction of steel silos in PPP (Public Private Partnership) mode in the country. Till date Silos with capacity of 30.75 LMT at various locations throughout country have been awarded. Out of which a capacity of 8.25 LMT has already been completed and remaining is under various stages of development. In addition a capacity of 5.5 LMT has been created under circuit base model in 2007.

(iii) Hiring of godown from CWCs/SWCs/

FCI hires godown from CWCs/SWCs on guaranteed reverberation basis to meet the requirement of storage space. As on 31.12.20, a capacity of 1.76 LMT from CWCs and 2.27 LMT capacity from SWCs has been hired in Maharashtra.

(iv) Godowns hiring through PWS

In addition, as and when required godowns are being hired through e-tender under Private Warehousing Scheme (PWS) to address immediate / urgent requirement of storage space. As on 31.12.20, a capacity of 1.88 LMT has been hired in Maharashtra through PWS.

Under PWS scheme, godowns are hired by FCI from private parties on Lease only and Lease with Services basis through open Tender Enquiry for a minimum period of two years extendable by another one year (maximum). Minimum capacity of godown shall be 2500 MT (however, for hilly area it shall be 1670 MT). The validity of the scheme is upto 31.03.2023.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 59 FOR ANSWER ON 02.02.2021 IN THE LOK SABHA

Steps taken by FCI to preserve the quality of procured foodgrains to avoid damage are

- (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, both in covered godowns as well as in CAP storage are used.**
- (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. Following Checks and Super checks are conducted in the godowns by FCI to ensure proper preservation of foodgrains in the storage.**
 - a) Fortnightly inspection of stocks on 100% basis by Technical Assistant.**
 - b) Monthly inspection by Manager(QC)**
 - c) Quaterly inspection by AGM(QC)**
 - d) Super Checks by Regional, Zonal and FCI Hqrs Squads.**
- (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) Damage Monitoring Cells have been set up at District, Regional and Zonal levels to regularly monitor quality of stocks and reduce damages.**
- (xii) Identify & repair all the leakage point in the roof.**
- (xiii) Cleaning of drainages in the godown premises ensured.**
- (xiv) Ensure no seepage inside the godowns.**
- (xv) No clogging up of water in the premises.**
- (xvi) Immediate action to segregate & recondition of the stocks whenever it gets affected.**
