

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION**  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**QUESTION NO 12.11.2010**  
**ANSWERED ON**  
**ROTTENING OF FOODGRAINS DUE TO NON AVAILABILITY OF GODOWNS .**

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Shri Ram Kripal Yadav

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :-

- (a) whether it is a fact that foodgrains are rotting due to shortage of space and non-availability of godowns;
- (b) if so, the action being taken in this regard;
- (c) whether Government has any data about the quantity of foodgrains rotted due to non-availability of proper space and godowns all over the country during current year; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE  
MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

(PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a)&(b): Foodgrains are stored by adopting proper scientific code of storage practices. However, some foodgrains are accrued as non-issuable (damaged) due to various reasons such as heavy rains, floods, pests, rodents etc.

The following steps /measures are taken to ensure safe storage of foodgrains to avoid damages to the foodgrains-

(i) Foodgrains are stored only in scientifically built godowns.

(ii) The CAP stocks are stored on elevated plinths and wooden crates are used as dunnage material. The CAP stocks are properly covered with polythene covers and tied with nylon ropes. The CAP stocks are regularly aerated to bring down the moisture content.

(iii) A number of preventive steps are carried out for the safe storage of foodgrains like regular prophylactic and curative measures for the control of insects and pests. Fumigation is also carried out at regular intervals.

(iv) The principle of `first in first out` (FIFO) is followed to the extent possible so as to avoid long storage of foodgrains in the godowns. To create additional storage capacity, the Government has formulated a scheme for construction of storage godowns through private entrepreneurs. Under the scheme, the Food Corporation of India would now give a guarantee of ten years for assured hiring. A capacity of about 150 lakh tonnes is to be created under the scheme through private entrepreneurs and Central and State Warehousing Corporations in 19 States. Out of the capacities sanctioned tenders have been invited in 15 States and so far offers have been received for 103 lakh tonnes. CWC and SWCs are constructing about 17 lakh tonnes on their own lands under the Scheme. Out of this, 0.97 lakh tonnes has already been completed and about 3.08 lakh tonnes would be completed by March, 2011. Further, in the Eleventh Five Year Plan, the Planning Commission has sanctioned Rs. 149 crores for construction of storage godowns by FCI and the State Governments to which funds are released as grants-in-aid. This would result in the construction of about 1.88 lakh tonnes of storage capacity. The General Managers (Region) of FCI have also been given full powers for hiring of private godowns for short term usage.

(c): The quantity of foodgrains accrued as non-issuable/damaged after salvaging/ segregation of the rain/flood affected stocks in open/CAP in FCI are as under:-

S. No.	Region	Quantity (in MTs)	Wheat	Rice	Total
1.	Uttar Pradesh	138.05	0	138.05	
2.	Rajasthan	8.56	0	8.56	
3.	Punjab	1.5	0	1.5	
4.	Maharashtra	18	1	19	
5.	Gujarat	280	0	280	
6.	West Bengal	21.70	0	21.70	
7.	Bihar	0	0.52	0.52	
	Total	467.81	1.52	469.33	