

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2626
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11TH AUGUST, 2023

**CREATION OF GODOWNS FOR PROTECTING
AGRICULTURE PRODUCES**

2626 SHRI P. WILSON:

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

- (a) whether improper storage facility is one of the threats posed to the future availability of essential commodities like rice, wheat and other agricultural produces;
- (b) whether Government has done any study across the country in this regard and drawn any future plan to encourage construction of storage godowns for the purpose of Storing large scale agricultural produces in order to ensure food security and to avoid any destruction of agriculture produces by natural calamities in future; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

A N S W E R
**MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION**
(SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI)

(a): No, Sir. As on 01.07.2023, the total covered capacity available for keeping the Central Pool Stock with Food Corporation of India (FCI) & State agencies is 733.12 LMT (FCI owned & hired 371.94 LMT + State agencies 361.19 LMT) against stock position of 554.94 LMT.

(b) & (c): The storage gap is calculated in house by FCI for Wheat and Rice.

FCI mainly stores wheat & rice after procurement for Public Distribution System (PDS) operation and to maintain buffer stock. Storage capacity of FCI depends upon the level of procurement, requirement of buffer norms and PDS operations. Storage gap is assessed in the procuring States based on the highest stock levels in the last three years and in the consuming States on the basis of 4 months (6 months in case of North Eastern States and in some other states like J&K, Ladakh, Himachal Pradesh, Uttrakhand, Andaman & Nicobar and Lakshadweep) requirement of National Food Security Act (NFSA) and Other Welfare Schemes (OWS).

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FCI continuously assesses and monitors the storage capacity and based on the storage gap assessment, storage capacities are created/hired. FCI is augmenting its storage capacity through following schemes:-

- a) Private Entrepreneurs Guarantee (PEG) Scheme
- b) Central Sector Scheme "Storage & Godowns".
- c) Construction of SILO's under PPP mode
- d) Hiring of godown from Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC)/State Warehousing Corporations (SWCs)/State Agencies
- e) Hiring of godown through Private Warehousing Scheme (PWS)
