

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF COOPERATION

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1132**  
ANSWERED ON 13/12/2023

**Grain Storage Scheme**

1132. SHRI PRAMOD TIWARI:

Will the Minister of COOPERATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there are recent developments by Government under World's Largest grain storage scheme and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government is providing any logistical support to the Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) under this new scheme; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF COOPERATION  
(SHRI AMIT SHAH)

(a) to (c): Government on 31.05.2023, has approved the "World's Largest Grain Storage Plan in Cooperative Sector", which is being rolled out as a Pilot Project. The Plan entails creation of various agri infrastructure at PACS level, including warehouses, custom hiring center, processing units, Fair Price Shops, etc. through convergence of various existing schemes of the Government of India (GoI), such as, Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF), Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure Scheme (AMI), Sub Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM) Pradhan Mantri Formalization of Micro Food Processing Enterprises Scheme (PMFME), Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY) and Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH).

Establishment of decentralized storage capacity at PACS level would reduce food grain wastage by creating sufficient storage capacity, strengthen food security of the country, prevent distress sale of crops and enable farmers to realise better prices for their crops. Since PACS would be operating as procurement centre as well as Fair Price Shops (FPS), the cost incurred in transportation of food grains to procurement centres and again transporting the stocks back from warehouses to FPS would also be saved.

In order to ensure smooth and effective implementation of the plan, Ministry of Cooperation has constituted Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC), which is authorized to modify guidelines/ implementation methodologies of the schemes identified for convergence, as and when need arises. A National Level Coordination Committee (NLCC) has also been constituted having members from Ministry/ Departments, Central Government agencies concerned to steer the overall implementation of the Plan and reviewing the progress of implementation, etc.

In order to monitor the implementation of the project and to ensure its seamless integration with the existing policies/ programmes at State level, State Cooperative Development Committee (SCDC) at State level and District Cooperative Development Committee (DCDC) in each District of the State/UT have also been constituted.

National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) with the support of NABARD, NABARD Consultancy Services (NABCONS), Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC), Food Corporation of India (FCI), National Buildings Construction Corporation (NBCC), etc. is implementing the Pilot Project in different States/ UTs. States/ UTs and National level Cooperative Federations, like National Cooperative Consumers Federation (NCCF) and National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED), have identified 1,711 PACS for creation of storage capacity under the Pilot Project. Presently, construction of godown is going on in 13 PACS of 13 States/ UTs under the Pilot Project.

Further, an MoU has been signed between Ministry of Cooperation (GoI), Department of Food and Public Distribution (GoI), Food Corporation of India (FCI) and National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) to ensure full capacity utilization of the storage capacity being created at PACS level under the Project. This will facilitate hiring of godowns constructed at PACS level by FCI, integration of these godowns with the supply chain of foodgrains, thereby providing requisite logistical support to PACS.

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