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

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1633 TO BE ANSWERED ON 10TH DECEMBER, 2024

LOSS OF FOOD GRAINS IN THE WAREHOUSES OF FCI

1633 # DR. BHIM SINGH:

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

- (a) whether Government has investigated the loss of foodgrains in the warehouses of Food Corporation of India (FCI), if so, the details thereof, State-wise and item-wise;
- (b) the details of loss of foodgrains in terms of quantity and money during the last three years, Statewise; and
- (c) the details of steps taken by Government to prevent such loss of foodgrains?

A N S W E R MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRIMATI NIMUBEN JAYANTIBHAI BAMBHANIYA)

(a): Yes. Food Corporation of India (FCI) procures, stores & handles huge quantities of foodgrains. Procured foodgrains are stored in a scientific manner. During the entire operations, some operational losses are incur due to various climatic/operational factors. Each case of foodgrains loss is investigated by the FCI. The FCI fixes accountability by initiating disciplinary action against the officials found responsible for losses. The State wise details of action taken in this regard for the last three years is as under:

States	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Bihar	0	0	0
Chhattisgarh	0	0	0
Rajasthan	0	6	0
Kerala	0	0	0
UP	0	0	0
Assam	0	0	0
Madhya Pradesh	0	0	0
Punjab	0	0	0
West Bengal	0	0	0
Maharashtra	- 0	9	0
Total	0	15	0

(b): The details on the accrual of damage foodgrains in terms of quantity and money reported during last three years are as under:

Year	Non-Issuable Food grains accrued (in Lakh Metric Tonnes)	Off-take Quantity (in Lakh Metric Tonnes)	% of damaged Foodgrains against Off-take Quantity	Assessed value in Rs. Crore
2021-22	0.017	766.081	0.002	2.5
2022-23	0.016	675.826	0.002	2.5
2023-24	0.103	470.719	0.022	14.5

(c): The steps taken by the Government for safe storage of foodgrains are enclosed at Annexure.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (c) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1633 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 10.12.2024 IN RAJYA SABHA

The steps taken by the Government for safe storage of foodgrains are as under:

- (i) All godowns are constructed as per prescribed 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 are taken.
- (vii) 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.
- (viii) The principle of "First in First Out" (FIFO) is followed to the extent possible so as to avoid longer storage of foodgrains in godowns.
- (ix) Only covered rail wagons are used for movement of foodgrains so as to avoid damage during transit.
- (x) Identification & repair all the leakage point in the roof is done periodically.
- (xi) Cleaning of drainages in the godown premises is ensured.
- (xii) Ensuring no seepage inside the godowns.
