

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2420
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 21/03/2025

STEPS TAKEN TO ADDRESS POST-HARVEST LOSSES

2420. SHRI GOLLA BABURAO:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact there is significant post-harvest losses, amounting to a staggering ₹1,57,787 crores in 2022 due to lack of adequate infrastructure, lack of technology, etc;
- (b) if so, the details of the post-harvest losses incurred in during the last three years, State wise;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the details of the steps being taken or proposed to be taken to address the post harvest losses?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

(SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

(a) to (c): Data on post-harvest losses due to lack of adequate infrastructure, lack of technology etc. is not maintained centrally.

(d): In order to address the post-harvest losses, Government is implementing various schemes under which financial assistance is provided for storage facilities under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) financial assistance is provided for various horticulture activities including construction/Expansion/ Modernization of cold storages of capacity up to 5000 MT in the country on the basis of Annual Action Plan (AAP) received from States/UTs. For Cold Storage Government assistance in the form of credit linked back ended subsidy is available at the rate of 35% of the project cost in general areas and 50% of the project cost in hilly and scheduled areas, through respective State Horticulture Missions.

Under Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure (AMI), a sub-scheme of Integrated Scheme for Agricultural Marketing (ISAM) assistance is provided for construction of godowns/ warehouses in the rural areas to enhance the storage capacity. Government provides subsidy at the rate of 25% and 33.33% on capital cost of the project based on the category of eligible beneficiary.

Under Agriculture Infrastructure Funds (AIF), there is provision for collateral free term loan upto Rs.2 crore and interest subvention of 3% on the term loan availed for creation of post-harvest infrastructure including establishment of cold storages.

Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) play a significant role in reducing post-harvest losses, as they help farmers by providing collective strength, resources, and access to better technologies and practices. In Central Sector Scheme for “Formation and Promotion of 10,000 Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs)”, 10,000 FPOs have been registered.

Further, the Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) implements Central Sector Umbrella Scheme - PMKSY to create post-harvest infrastructure and processing facilities to boost the overall development of the food processing sector, including reduction in post-harvest losses. The component schemes under PMKSY provide credit linked financial assistance (capital subsidy) in the form of grants-in-aid to entrepreneurs for setting up of food processing/preservation infrastructure which, inter-alia, includes cold storages and refrigerated vehicles to minimize post-harvest losses.
