

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5793
TO BE ANSWERED ON 3rd APRIL 2018

TRANSPORTATION OF FOODGRAINS

5793. SHRI ANOOP MISHRA:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has explored other options for the transportation of foodgrains to the State, if so, the details and the outcome thereof along with the reasons for rejecting the same, State-wise including Madhya Pradesh; and
- (b) the corrective steps proposed in this regard?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE FOR CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)

(a & b) Yes, Madam. Food Corporation of India (FCI) undertakes movement of containerized transportation of foodgrains wherever it is economically viable for the Corporation in comparison to conventional rail-cum-road movement.

During 2016-17, FCI moved 13 containerized rakes with a total saving of Rs. 44 lakhs. A target of 100 containerized rakes movement was kept for 2017-18, against which 131 containerized rakes have been moved till date with approx. savings of Rs.593 lakhs. One container rake has been loaded from Madhya Pradesh till date.

State-wise details of the containerized rakes movement are as under:

| Name of the State | No. of Container rakes moved during 2016-17 | No. of Container rakes moved during 2017-18 |
|-------------------|---|---|
| Punjab | 5 | 65 |
| Haryana | 1 | 22 |
| Chhattisgarh | 5 | 29 |
| Andhra Pradesh | 2 | 14 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 0 | 1 |
| Total | 13 | 131 |

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At present, containerized movement of foodgrains from Madhya Pradesh are not found economically viable.

As an alternative to the road movement related problems in NE States like landslides & deplorable condition of National Highways during rainy season and megablock, FCI undertook riverine movement of foodgrains and moved 9942 MT foodgrain from Vishakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh) to Tripura via Ashuganj (Bangladesh) during 2014. Further FCI moved 9691 MT and 2267 MT foodgrains from Kolkata to Tripura via Ashuganj (Bangladesh) during 2015 and 2016 respectively.

FCI has also moved foodgrains via sea route from designated depots of Andhra Pradesh to designated depots of Kerala. A total of 1.43 LMT foodgrain has been moved since 2013-14 to 2016-17 from Andhra Pradesh to Kerala through sea-route.
