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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.938 TO BE ANSWERED ON 24^{TH} JULY, 2018

WASTAGE OF FOODGRAINS DUE TO POOR STORAGE FACILITIES

938. SHRI RAMESH CHANDER KAUSHIK: DR. BHARATIBEN D. SHYAL:

SHRI KAUSHALENDRA KUMAR:

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 is aware that foodgrains are wasted every year during the rainy season due to lack of proper storage facilities and if so, the details thereof in terms of tonnage;
- (b) the action plan prepared by the Government to deal with the said problem;
- (c) whether the Government has fixed any accountability in this regard and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the foodgrain storage capacity of public and private sector godowns separately in the country at present; and
- (e) the total quantum of foodgrains stored in these godowns at present along with the storage capacity lying unused?

ANSWER

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

- (a) No wastage of Central Pool foodgrains (wheat & rice) can be directly attributed to lack of storage facilities in Food Corporation of India (FCI). The storage capacity of 855.98 Lakh MT is available against the stocks of 650.53 Lakh MT as on 01.07.2018.
- (b) Following steps have been taken by the Government to augment covered storage capacity:

- 1. Government has formulated Private Entrepreneurs Guarantee (PEG) Scheme for construction of godowns by private parties, Central Warehouse Corporation (CWC), State Warehouse Corporations (SWCs) and other State agencies for storage of foodgrains. Storage capacity of 141.37 Lakh MT has been created as on 30.06.2018. In addition Storage capacity of 1,25,610 MT in North Eastern States and 20,000 MT in States other than NE States as on 31st March 2017 has been created under 12th Five Year Plan.
- 2. In order to avoid damage of foodgrains from rain following steps are taken:
 - a. The trucks transporting foodgrains are covered with tarpaulins on all sides and carefully examined on receipt at the destination to ensure that no bags get wet.
 - b. Before rainy season godowns are carefully examined and any suspected leakage points are got repaired.
 - c. Underground drains fed by rain water pipes are periodically examined against choking, if any.
 - d. On the rainy day, the doors and ventilators of godowns are kept closed to check the rain water entry in the godowns.
- 3. Steps taken to avoid the damage of foodgrains in storage are at ANNEXURE-I.
- (c): Whenever accrual of any quantity of damaged foodgrains is noticed, each case is investigated immediately and action by the concerned authority is invariably taken against officials found responsible. The details of the action taken against the officers/employees of FCI found responsible for damage to foodgrains due to rain during last five years are at ANNEXURE-II.
- (d): As on 30.06.2018, Storage capacity with FCI which is owned and hired from CWC/State Govt./PEG/Private agencies for storage of central pool stock is 381.06 Lakh MT (Public 264.58 Lakh MT and Private–116.48 Lakh MT). In addition, 474.92 Lakh MT of storage capacity is utilized by State Governments for keeping Central Pool Stocks.
- (e): Utilization of storage capacity varies from month to month and day to day depending on the level of procurement and issue. The detail of the quantum of foodgrains stored in storage capacity with % age as on 31.03.2018 is as under:

(Figure in Lakh MT)

| | Covered | | | САР | | | Total |
|-----------------|---------|--------|--------|-------|-------|-------|--------|
| | Owned | Hired | Total | Owned | Hired | Total | |
| Capacity | 128.42 | 208.06 | 336.48 | 26.02 | 0.00 | 26.02 | 362.50 |
| Stocks | 92.18 | 184.75 | 276.93 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 276.93 |
| Utilization (%) | 72 | 89 | 82 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 76 |

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO 938 TO BE ANSWERED ON 24^{TH} JULY, 2018 IN LOK SABHA.

STEPS TAKEN TO AVOID THE DAMAGE OF FOODGRAINS IN STORAGE ARE AS UNDER:

- (i) All godowns are constructed as per 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, both in covered godowns as well as in CAP storage are used.
- (vii) Foodgrains in 'Cover and Plinth' (CAP) storage are stored on elevated plinths and wooden crates are used as dunnage material. Stacks are properly covered with specifically fabricated low-density black polythene water-proof covers and tied with nylon ropes/nets.
- (viii) 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. Following Checks and Super checks are conducted in the godowns by FCI to ensure proper preservation of foodgrains in the storage.
 - a) Fortnightly inspection of stocks on 100% basis by Technical Assistant.
 - b) Monthly inspection by Manager(QC)
 - c) Quarterly inspection by AGM(QC)
 - d) Super Checks by Regional, Zonal and FCI Hqrs Squads.
- (xi) The principle of "First in First Out" (FIFO) is followed to the extent possible so as to avoid longer storage of foodgrains in godowns.
- (x) Only covered rail wagons are used for movement of foodgrains so as to avoid damage during transit.
- (xi) Damage Monitoring Cells have been set up at District, Regional and Zonal levels to regularly monitor quality of stocks and reduce damages.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (c) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO 938 TO BE ANSWERED ON 24^{TH} JULY, 2018 IN LOK SABHA.

DETAILS OF THE ACTION TAKEN AGAINST THE OFFICERS/EMPLOYEES OF FCI RESPONSIBLE FOR DAMAGE TO FOODGRAINS DUE TO RAIN DURING LAST FIVE YEARS

| Sl. | Region | Name of officials Shri | Designation | Penalty Imposed | |
|------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|--|
| No. 1 | Bihar | S.P. Ram | Manager(D), FSD Mokama | Reduction to initial pay in the | |
| | | | | time scale of Manager | |
| 2 | Kerala | P.O. Sunny | Manager(Civil), FSD Kollam | Penalty of "CENSURE" | |
| | | D.V.Lakshmi | M (G; ii) F3F (ii) | D 65 05 000/ | |
| | | Narayanan | Manager(Civil), FSD Avadi | Recovery of Rs. 25,000/- Reduction of 2 stages in the | |
| | | V. Panneer Selvam | Manager(QC), FSD Tvkoil | pay scale till retirement | |
| | P. Murugavel | Manager(Civil), FSD Egmore | Warning Issued | | |
| 3 | Tamil Nadu | P. Mugunthan | Manager(Civil), FSD Avadi | Warning Issued | |
| | M. Kalimuthu | Manager(Civil), MD Coimbatore | Warning Issued | | |
| | C. Balasubramaniam | Manager(Civil), FSD Egmore | Warning Issued | | |
| | | V. Mugunthan | Manager(Civil), FSD Avadi | Warning Issued | |
| | | Sahadevan | AC I(D) ESD Tylroil | Reduction of pay by 3 stages with cummulative effect | |
| | | Sanadevan | AG-I(D), FSD Tvkoil | Penalty of "CENSURE" and | |
| 4 Andhra Pradesh | A 11 D 1 1 | S.C. Narayana | Manager(D), BSC Jammikunta | recovery of Rs. 10,000/- | |
| | , | | Penalty of "CENSURE" and | | |
| | | V. Srinivas | Manager(QC), BSC Jammikunta | recovery of Rs. 10,000/- | |
| | | D.K. Atri | Manager(D) | Penalty of "CENSURE" | |
| | | Salwinder Kumar | Manager(QC) | Penalty of "CENSURE" | |
| | | Akshay Lal Prasad | Ex. Manager(D) | Penalty of "CENSURE" | |
| 5 Delhi | Rohtash Kumar | Manager(CE) | Penalty of "CENSURE" | | |
| | Satish Minj | AG-II (D) | Recovery of Rs. 1300/- | | |
| | Amarjeet Singh | AG-II (D) | Recovery of Rs. 2700/- | | |
| | Hari Singh | AG-I (D) | Recovery of Rs. 1200/- | | |
| | Amit Bhatnagar | AG-I (D) | Recovery of Rs. 5650/- | | |
| | Rajpal Singh | AG-I (D) | Recovery of Rs. 9000/- | | |
| | | Sudhir Kumar | AG-II (Min) | Recovery of Rs. 5800/- | |
| | | Subhash Panwar | TA III | Recovery of Rs. 930/- | |
| | | Rishab Hingle | TA III | Recovery of Rs. 1000/- | |
| | | Anjana | TA III | Recovery of Rs. 1400/- | |
| | | Anupam Sinha | TA III | Recovery of Rs. 650/- | |
| | | Jai Kishan | AG-I (D) | Recovery of Rs. 1100/- | |
| | | Shesh Raj | Ex. AG-I (D) | Recovery of Rs. 4878/- | |
