

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

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4470

TO BE ANSWERED ON 08 JANUARY, 2019

INADEQUATE STORAGE FOR FOODGRAINS

4470. SHRI VIKRAM USENDI:

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 taken cognizance of the fact that every year a lot of foodgrains get spoiled due to inadequate storage capacity of foodgrains in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the names of States having excess storage capacity at present;
- (d) whether the excess foodgrain storage capacity has turned out to be the reasons for crisis in some States;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the remedial steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

A N S W E R

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

(a) & (b): No damage of foodgrains can be directly attributed to inadequate storage capacity of foodgrains in the country.

The foodgrains are stored scientifically with various preservation measures like fumigation and treatment with pesticides. In spite of taking necessary care and precautions, small quantities of foodgrains may become non-issuable due to various reasons like natural calamities, damages in transit, negligence of officials etc.

Accrual of damaged foodgrains in FCI during the last 3 years is given below:

| Year | Offtake quantity (excluding DCP States) in Lakh tonnes | Damage Accrual in FCI(In Lakh tonnes) | % Damaged Food grain against Offtake Quantity |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| 2016-17 | 473.31 | 0.09 | 0.02% |
| 2017-18 | 452.16 | 0.027 | 0.006% |
| 2018-19 (01-12-2018) | 296.40 | 0.04 | 0.01% |

(c) to (f): Total storage capacity available is as per requirement. The utilization of storage capacity depends upon the level of procurement, movement of foodgrains etc. and may differ from time to time. In procuring regions, the capacity utilization is at a maximum when procurement operations are going on but, subsequently, the stock is moved to deficit regions. This leads to liquidation of stock and hence, the capacity temporarily becomes surplus at micro level but on the overall, i.e., at macro level the capacity with FCI is as per requirement.
