

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1052
ANSWERED ON 13TH DECEMBER, 2022

LOGISTICS AND STORAGE SYSTEMS TO REDUCE FOOD LOSSES

1052. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN:

DR. A. CHELLAKUMAR:

SHRI RAJMOHAN UNNITHAN:

Will the Minister of *FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES* be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of steps taken by the Government to mitigate food losses as several studies and reports including one by ICAR-CIPHET have attributed it to bumper crop, damages during storage/transport and consumer food wastage;
- (b) the details of the steps taken by the Government to mitigate these losses;
- (c) whether the Government is considering updating logistics and storage systems using scientific methods in order to reduce food loss;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to assure and secure markets and prices so that farmers are not forced to dispose bumper crop out of distress?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES
(SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL)

(a) to (d). As per the study conducted by Indian Council of Agricultural Research- Central Institute of Post-Harvest Engineering and Technology (ICAR-CIPHET) submitted in 2015, the harvest and post-harvest losses of major cereals ranged from 4.65% -5.99%, pulses ranged from 6.36% - 8.41%, oilseeds ranged from 3.08% - 9.96%, fruits ranged from 6.70 % to 15.88%; while for vegetables the losses ranged from 4.58% - 12.44%.

Details of steps taken by the Government to mitigate the losses are as under:

- (i) The Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) is implementing a Central Sector umbrella scheme Pradhan Mantri Kisan SAMPADA Yojana (PMKSY) since 2016-17 for overall growth and development of the sector with the aim to augment preservation and processing capacity so as to reduce post-harvest losses, create employment, and enhancing of value addition & exports of processed food with components, namely, (i) Integrated Cold Chain and Value Addition Infrastructure, (ii)

- Infrastructure for Agro-Processing Clusters, (iii) Creation/ Expansion of Food Processing & Preservation Capacities, (iv) Food Safety and Quality Assurance Infrastructure, (v) Human Resources and Institutions–Research & Development and (vi) Operation Greens. Mega Food Park and Creation of Backward and Forward Linkages schemes, which were earlier implemented as component schemes of the PMKSY have been discontinued.
- (ii) Food Corporation of India (FCI) implements the following schemes for modernization or upgradation of storage systems for food grains:
- 1) Construction of Silos under PPP mode
 - 2) Private Entrepreneurs Guarantee (PEG) Scheme
 - 3) FCI aims at positioning bulk logistic operations through specialized wagons/containers between silos, which can reduce losses of food grains during transportation in comparison to conventional rake movement by avoiding multiple handling in bagged consignments.
- (iii) ICAR through its research activities develops post-harvest machinery, storage structures and protocols, high value/value added products and conducts trainings for farmers and other stakeholders for reducing post-harvest losses of crops and commodities
- (e). The following measures are in place to support farmers/ growers from selling crops out of distress:
- (i). Under the Operation Greens scheme of PMKSY, there is provision for short term support of 50% subsidy on cost of transportation and storage for fruits & vegetables for evacuation of surplus production from production centres during the glut situation. This will help farmers/growers of eligible crops from making distress sale.
 - (ii). Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare is implementing the Marketing Research and Information Network, sub scheme of Integrated Scheme for Agricultural Marketing (ISAM), since 2000 to link important Agricultural Produce Markets spread all over the country and the State Agriculture Marketing Boards and Directorates spread over the country and collect, collate and disseminate the mandi prices & arrival data.
 - (iii). Through e-procurement module deployed by procuring agencies, farmers get latest/ updated information regarding Minimum Support Price (MSP) declared, nearest purchase center, date of procurement etc. This reduces the waiting period for delivery of stock by the farmers and enables the farmer to deliver stock as per his/her convenience in the nearest mandi.
 - (iv). Various procurement portals developed by procuring agencies have now been unified into Central Food Grain Procurement Portal (CFPP) to share identified MTP (Minimum Threshold Parameters) towards development of an application eco-system, wherein requisite information in respect of procurement is available at single source for monitoring and strategic decision making and to ensure uniformity and transparency.