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

LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.318 TO BE ANSWERED ON 22ND MARCH, 2023

FOOD WASTAGE REDUCTION POLICY

†*318. SHRI SANJAY JADHAV: SHRI OMPRAKASH BHUPALSINH ALIAS PAWAN RAJENIMBALKAR:

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 conducted any survey on foodgrains in the country;
- (b) if so, the details of quantity of foodgrains wasted along with the reasons during the last five years;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to develop a food wastage reduction policy in the country and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the measures taken by the Government to reduce wastage of food in Government offices, canteens, food shops etc.; and
- (e) whether the Government has introduced incentive measures to reduce wastage of food in private places and if so, the details thereof?

A N S W E R MINISTER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY, CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND TEXTILES (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

⁽a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF THE STARRED QUESTION NO.318 FOR ANSWER ON 22.03.2023 IN THE LOK SABHA.

(a) & (b): No such survey has been conducted by the Department of Food and Public Distribution.

The foodgrains procured for Central Pool are stored in a scientific manner and a very negligible quantity of foodgrains accrue as damaged/become non-issuable mainly due to natural calamities *viz.* cyclone, flood, rain etc. The details on the quantity of foodgrains (rice & wheat) which got damaged in godowns of Food Corporation of India (FCI) during last five years are as under:

Year	Non-Issuable Foodgrains Accrued (In LMT)	Off-take Quantity (Excluding DCP) (Figures in LMTs)	% of Damaged Foodgrains against Off-take Quantity (Excluding DCP)
2018-19	0.052	500.08	0.010
2019-20	0.019	455.13	0.004
2020-21	0.019	688.57	0.003
2021-22	0.017	766.08	0.002

(c) to (e): The Department of Consumer Affairs has carried out publicity campaigns through print and electronic media from time to time to sensitize people against food wastage including reduce food wastage in government offices, canteens, food outlets, etc., In addition to this, the States/UTs were advised by the Central Government to include a chapter on prevention of food wastage in the school syllabi in order to inculcate awareness among young students and sensitize them on the subject.

Further, Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) under Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has launched a social initiative known as "Save Food Share Food" to help promote donation of surplus food and reduce food waste by integrating various food distribution agencies, caterers and other stakeholders. FSSAI has also notified Food Safety and Standards (Recovery and Distribution of Surplus Food) Regulations, 2019 which specify the responsibilities of food donors and surplus food distribution organizations so that the donated food remains safe for human consumption.
