

**Government of India
Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
Department of Consumer Affairs**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 954 (OIH)
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.02.2023**

ILLEGAL TRADE PRACTICES

954. SHRI DILESHWAR KAMAIT:
(OIH)

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 formulated any concrete scheme to put a check on unfair and illegal trade practices such as hoarding, profiteering and curtailing for the benefit of farmers in Bihar, if so, the details thereof, district-wise;
- (b) whether the Government is solving the problems of farmers through monetary policies, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has established Price Monitoring Centre in Bihar also, if so, the details thereof, district-wise; and
- (d) the number of godowns for storage of foodgrains in Bihar and the capacity of such godowns district-wise?

ANSWER

**उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण राज्य मंत्री
(साध्वी निरंजन ज्योति)**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI)**

(a) : The Essential Commodities Act (EC Act), 1955 and the Prevention of Black marketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, (PBMMSEC Act), 1980 provide the legislative and administrative foundation to control hoarding and black-marketing of essential commodities. Powers to control hoarding, black marketing etc. under these Acts have been delegated to States/ UTs. State/UT Governments are advised/sensitized from time to time to take appropriate action against hoarding & black-marketing and enforce the two Acts, effectively.

(b) : Under the existing Priority Sector Lending (PSL) guidelines issued by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), lending to, *inter alia*, agriculture is treated as priority sector lending. The RBI's PSL directions mandate all commercial banks, including private banks, to earmark a sub-target of 18% out of their total credit for agriculture out of which a sub-target of 9.5% has been fixed for small and marginal farmers. The Government has introduced the Kisan Credit Card (KCC) scheme, which enables farmers to purchase agricultural inputs such as seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, etc. and draw cash to meet their agricultural and consumption needs. The KCC scheme has since been simplified with facilities like one-time documentation, built-in cost escalation in the limit and facility of ATM enabled debit card etc. Government also implements a Modified Interest Subvention Scheme (MISS) under which short term crop loans up to Rs. 3.00 lakh are provided to farmers at a reduced interest rate of 7% per annum. Besides, additional incentive of 3% is given to the farmers for prompt repayment of the loan, thereby reducing the effective rate of interest to 4%. Under PM Kisan Samman Nidhi scheme, an income support of 6,000/- per year in three equal installments is provided to all land holding farmer families. The fund is directly transferred to the bank accounts of the beneficiaries.

(c) : Price Monitoring Centres are set up in all the 38 districts of Bihar and the prices of essential commodities reported by these centres feed into the central database of Price Monitoring Cell of the Department of Consumer Affairs. The list of Price Monitoring Centres in Bihar is given at **Annexure-I**.

(d) : District-wise list of godowns in Bihar and corresponding capacity in MT is given at **Annexure-II**.

ANNEXURE REFERRED IN REPLY TO PART (C) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 954 FOR 08.02.2023 REGARDING ILLEGAL TRADE PRACTICES**Details of Price Monitoring Centres in Bihar**

S. No.	District Name	Price Monitoring Centre Name
1	ARARIA	Araria
2	ARWAL	Arwal
3	AURANGABAD	Aurangabad
4	BANKA	Banka
5	BEGUSARAI	Begusarai
6	BHAGALPUR	Bhagalpur
7	BHOJPUR	Bhojpur
8	BUXAR	Buxar
9	DARBHANGA	Darbhanga
10	GAYA	Gaya
11	GOPALGANJ	Gopalganj
12	JAMUI	jamui
13	JEHANABAD	Jehanabad
14	KAIMUR (BHABUA)	Kaimur
15	KATIHAR	Katihar
16	KHAGARIA	Khagaria
17	KISHANGANJ	Kishanganj
18	LAKHISARAI	Lakhisarai
19	MADHEPURA	Medhepura
20	MADHUBANI	Madhubani
21	MUNGER	Munger
22	MUZAFFARPUR	Muzaffarpur
23	NALANDA	Nalanada
24	NAWADA	Nawada
25	PASHCHIM CHAMPARAN	West Champaran
26	PATNA	Patna
27	PURBI CHAMPARAN	Motihari
28	PUARNIA	Purnia
29	ROHTAS	Rohtas (Sasaram)
30	SAHARSA	Saharsa
31	SAMASTIPUR	Samastipur
32	SARAN	Saran
33	SHEIKHPURA	Sheikhpura
34	SHEOHAR	Sheohar
35	SITAMARHI	Sitamarhi
36	SIWAN	Siwan
37	SUPAUL	Supaul
38	VAISHALI	Vaisahli

ANNEXURE REFERRED IN REPLY TO PART (D) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 954 FOR 08.02.2023 REGARDING ILLEGAL TRADE PRACTICES

District-wise list of number of godowns and capacity of godowns in Bihar

Sl. No	District	No.of Godowns	Capacity of Godowns (In MT)
1	Araria	264	58,990.00
2	Arwal	216	47,103.00
3	Aurangabad	460	159,200.00
4	Banka	185	38,100.00
5	Begusarai	111	19,480.00
6	Bhagalpur	147	24,430.00
7	Bhojpur	284	60,310.00
8	Buxar	191	33,525.00
9	Darbhanga	205	32,290.00
10	E.Champaran	384	81,035.00
11	Gaya	630	138,810.00
12	Gopalganj	213	34,100.00
13	Jamui	195	37,650.00
14	jehanabad	239	54,090.00
15	Kaimur	410	149,720.00
16	Katihar	189	29,500.00
17	Khagaria	89	13,160.00
18	Kishanganj	219	34,975.00
19	Lakhisarai	95	24,150.00
20	Madhepura	163	37,720.00
21	Madhubani	357	57,365.00
22	Munger	117	25,850.00
23	Muzaffarpur	341	62,850.00
24	Nalanda	324	83,675.00
25	Nawada	86	86,800.00
26	Patna	638	158,660.00
27	Purnia	255	51,300.00
28	Rohtas	944	308,660.00
29	Saharsa	146	32,300.00
30	Samastipur	373	69,650.00
31	Saran	240	39,200.00
32	Sheikhpura	62	16,250.00
33	Sheohar	56	8,060.00
34	Sitamarhi	252	40,450.00
35	siwan	459	84,539.00
36	Supaul	237	56,625.00
37	Vaishali	99	15,500.00
38	W.Champaran	284	47,450.00
	Total	10,459	23,53,522.00

Source: Food & Consumer Protection Department, Govt. of Bihar