

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 330  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.11.2019**

**INADEQUATE STORAGE CAPACITY**

330. SHRI DULAL CHAND GOSWAMI:  
(OIH)

**Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION  
उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण राज्य मंत्री be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether a large quantum of onion, tomato, potato, wheat, corn, paddy and pulses go wasted every year due to inadequate storage capacity as a result of which the farmers are unable to get even the cost price;
- (b) whether the prices of the vegetables and foodgrains sometimes become erratic due to erratic supply;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether the Government is implementing a new National Cold Storage Policy for redressal of these problems and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

**उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण राज्य मंत्री  
(श्री दानवे रावसाहेब दादाराव)**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE  
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION  
(SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB DADARAO)**

(a) : No specific assessment of annual wastage of agriculture produce due to lack of storage capacity has been carried out. However, Central Institute of Post-Harvest Engineering and Technology (CIPHET) under Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has conducted a study on Assessment of Quantitative Harvest and Post-Harvest Losses of Major Crops and Commodities in India. This study, published in 2015, estimated cumulative percentages of annual harvest and post-harvest losses for onion, potato, tomato, wheat, corn, paddy and pulses ranged from 4.65% to 12.44%. As per records available, there are 8,038 Cold Storages with Capacity of 36.77 million MT in the country. In addition, against total stock of foodgrains of 642.32 Lakh MT (as on 1.10.2019), the total storage capacity available with Food Corporation of India (FCI), Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) and the State Agencies (both owned and hired capacity), was 753.93 LMT (as on 30.9.2019) comprising of 624.13 LMT in covered godowns and 129.80 LMT in Cover and Plinth (CAP) storage.

(b) & (c) : Prices of food items are, inter-alia, affected by mismatch in demand and supply, shortfall in production owing to adverse weather conditions and seasonality, increased transportation costs, supply chain constraints like lack of storage facilities, artificial shortage created by hoarding and black-marketing, etc.

(d) : The Government is promoting various schemes for development of post-harvest infrastructure, warehouses/cold storages and supply chains to provide remunerative prices to farmers details of which are at **Annexure**.

**ANNEXURE REFERRED IN REPLY TO PART (d) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.330 FOR 19.11.2019 REGARDING INADEQUATE STORAGE CAPACITY.**

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1. The Government is promoting various schemes for development of post-harvest infrastructure, warehouses/cold storages and supply chains details such as:

(i) Schemes of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana – Remunerative Approaches for Agriculture and Allied Sectors Rejuvenation (RKVY-RAFTAAR) and also the sub-schemes of Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure (AMI) & Venture Capital Assistance (VCA) of Integrated Scheme of Agricultural Marketing (ISAM) together with Pradhan Mantri Kisan SAMPADA Yojana - PMKSY (Scheme for Agro-Marine Processing and Development of Agro-Processing Clusters). Further, Scheme of Integrated Cold Chain and Value Addition Infrastructure under PMKSY provides for assistance in the form of grants-in-aid upto maximum of ₹10 crore per project for setting up cold chain infrastructure which has component of inter-alia cold storage to provide integrated and complete cold chain facilities without any break from the farm gate to consumer to reduce losses by improving efficiency in collection of farmer produce, storage, transportation and minimal processing.

(ii) Government is also implementing Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) under which financial assistance is available, inter-alia, for setting up of Post-harvest Management (PHM) infrastructure including establishment of staging cold room, evaporative low energy cool chamber, Pusa Zero energy cool chamber in rural areas. The component of PHM including cold storage is demand/entrepreneur driven from among entrepreneurs, private companies, cooperatives, farmer groups, etc., through commercial ventures for which assistance ranging from 35% to 50% of the eligible project cost in general areas and hilly and scheduled areas, respectively, per beneficiary is available as credit linked back ended subsidy through respective State Horticulture Missions. Under MIDH, powers have been delegated to State Level Executive Committee (SLEC) of various States for sanctioning of project up to cost of ₹5 crore.

(iii) National Horticulture Board (NHB) under Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare is implementing the Scheme of Capital Investment Subsidy for Construction/Expansion/Modernization of Cold Storages for Horticulture Products under which credit linked back-ended subsidy @35% of the capital cost of the project in general areas for Cold storage capacity above 5,000 MT and up to 10,000 MT is provided for construction/expansion/modernization of cold storage and CA store. In the case of North Eastern region, capacity above 1,000 MT is also eligible. This scheme is credit-linked and demand driven.

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