

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 366
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19th NOVEMBER, 2019**

WASTAGE OF CEREALS

366. SHRI CHANDESHWAR PRASAD:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that due to lack of proper storage, huge quantities of cereals (wheat-rice) was laid to waste over the years;**
- (b) if so, the details of cereals wasted during the last three years, year-wise;**
- (c) whether the Government has not allowed export despite adequate stocks of cereals;**
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor;**
- (e) whether the Government has adequate reserves of cereals to tackle drought situation in the country; and**
- (f) if so, the details thereof?**

A N S W E R

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD &
PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB DADARAO)**

(a) and (b): No Sir. No wastage of Central Pool Foodgrains (wheat & rice) stored in godowns of Food Corporation of India (FCI) can be directly attributed to lack of proper storage facilities. Procured foodgrains are stored by FCI in a scientific manner in covered godowns and Cover & Plinth (CAP) storage. Inspite of all precautions, some quantity of foodgrains may get damaged/become non-issuable during storage due to transit damages viz enroute damage in wagon/truck, contamination, wagon roof leakage, Natural Calamities like cyclone/flood etc.

.....2/-

The quantum of foodgrains, which got damaged in godowns of FCI during last three years is as under:

Year	Quantity of damaged foodgrains (in lakh tonnes)
2016-17	0.09
2017-18	0.027
2018-19	0.05

(c) and (d): India is a Member of World Trade Organization (WTO) and the provisions of the Agreement on Agriculture under the aegis of WTO, restrict exports on commercial terms from public stockholding. No export for wheat/rice has been made from Central Pool Foodgrains Stocks during the last year and the current year till date.

(e) and (f): Yes Sir, To meet any contingency situation like drought, a strategic reserve of 20 Lakh MT of rice and 30 Lakh MT of wheat is maintained at national level at different FCI godowns, out of the foodgrains procured at Minimum Support Price (MSP).
