STORAGE FOR FOOD GRAINS

1546. SHRI BHRATRUHARI MAHTAB:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is working on creating storage or warehouse facilities for storing food grains of farmers in the villages;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the current data on the number of facilities already in place as on date?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) to (d): Yes Sir. Government is implementing Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure (AMI), a sub-scheme of Integrated Scheme for Agricultural Marketing (ISAM) under which assistance is provided for creating storage or warehouse facilities for storing food grains of farmers in the villages. AMI scheme is a demand driven, back ended credit linked subsidy scheme in which rate of subsidy provided is 25% and 33.33% based on the category of eligible beneficiary and provided on capital cost of the project. Assistance under the sub-scheme is available to individuals, agripreneurs, group of farmers/growers, registered Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs), cooperatives and state agencies etc.

Since inception and up to 30.06.2020, a total of 39,416 storage infrastructure projects with storage capacity of 665.3 Lakh MT have been assisted under AMI scheme benefiting number of agri-preneurs including farmers.

The Government has approved a new central sector scheme for Financial Facility under Agriculture Infrastructure Fund of Rs. 1,00,000 Crore to provide a medium-long term debt financing facility for investment in viable projects for post-harvest market infrastructure including warehousing facility and community farming assets through interest subvention and financial support. The scheme has been formally launched by Hon’ble Prime Minister of India on 09.08.2020. So far, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has received 3055 proposals including that of warehouse facilities from Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) through state cooperative banks in 22 states for which in-principle sanction of Rs. 1568 crore has been accorded.

Further, Warehouse Infrastructure Fund (WIF) was created in National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) during 2013-14 & 2014-15 with corpus of Rs. 5000 crore each (from priority sector shortfall) to finance warehouses and cold storages.

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