

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

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO.210
TO BE ANSWERED ON 3RD AUGUST, 2021**

DAMAGED FOODGRAINS

***210. SHRI D.K. SURESH:
SHRIMATI SUMALATHA AMBAREESH:**

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

- (a) whether huge quantity of foodgrains is damaged in various godowns of Food Corporation of India (FCI);**
- (b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years, State-wise;**
- (c) the estimated loss incurred due to damaged foodgrains; and**
- (d) whether the Government has taken steps to prevent such loss of foodgrains in FCI and if so, the details in this regard?**

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

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF THE STARRED QUESTION NO. *210 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 03.08.2021 IN THE LOK SABHA.

(a): No Sir.

(b): Does not arise in view of the (a) above.

(c): The foodgrains procured for Central Pool Stocks are stored in covered godowns and Cover & Plinth (CAP) storage. The foodgrains are stored as per prescribed procedure/guidelines of Food Corporation of India (FCI). But a meagre quantity of foodgrains may get damaged/become non-issuable during storage due to transit damage *viz* enroute damage in wagon/truck, contamination, wagon roof leakage and natural calamities like cyclone/flood etc. During the year 2020-21 a quantity of 1850 Tonnes foodgrains have been damaged in godowns of FCI which is 0.003% of total foodgrains quantity handled and its estimated value is Rs. 2.57Crore

(d): Steps taken by the Government to prevent damage of foodgrains are enclosed at Annexure.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (d) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. *210 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 03.08.2021 IN LOK SABHA.

STEPS TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT FOR SAFE STORAGE OF PROCURED FOODGRAINS TO PREVENT DAMAGE:

A. Periodical maintenance of scientific storage structure.

Dedicated Engineering wing of FCI is carrying out periodical maintenance of all storage structures.

- a) Identifying & repairing of all the leakage points in the roof.**
- b) Cleaning of drainages in the godown premises ensured.**
- c) Ensuring that no seepage inside the godowns so that no clogging up of water.**
- d) Ensuring all the repairing works are attended on priority before the onset of monsoon season.**

B. Capacity building for additional modern storage structure.

Steel Silo bins are being constructed as a measure of modern capacity building which ensures better preservation of foodgrains and enhances its shelf life.

C. Scientific storage and preservation of stocks.

- (i) Foodgrains are stored by adopting proper scientific code of storage practices.**
- (ii) Adequate dunnage materials such as wooden crates, bamboo mats, polythene sheets are used to check migration of moisture from the floor to the foodgrains.**
- (iii) Fumigation covers, nylon ropes, nets and insecticides for control of stored grain insect pests are provided in all the godowns.**
- (iv) Prophylactic (spraying of insecticides) and curative treatments (fumigation) are carried out regularly and timely in godowns for the control of stored grain insect pests.**
- (v) Effective rat control measures, both in covered godowns as well as in Covered and Plinth (CAP) storage are used.**

- (vi) **Regular periodic inspections of the stocks/godowns are undertaken by qualified and trained staff and senior officers. The health of the foodgrains is monitored at regular intervals by a system of checks and super checks at different levels. Following Checks and Super checks are conducted in the godowns by FCI to ensure proper preservation of foodgrains in the storage.**
- a) Fortnightly inspection of stocks on 100% basis by Technical Assistant.**
 - b) Monthly inspection by Manager(QC)**
 - c) Quarterly inspection by AGM(QC)**
 - d) Super Checks by Regional, Zonal and FCI Hqrs Squads.**
- (vii) **The principle of "First in First Out" (FIFO) is followed to the extent possible so as to avoid longer storage of foodgrains in godowns. Besides stocks lying at vulnerable plinths and procured under relaxed specifications are issued on overriding priority to avoid any damage to stocks in storage.**
- (viii) **Only covered rail wagons are used for movement of foodgrains so as to avoid damage during transit.**
- (ix) **While movement Polythene Sheets are spread on the floor of railway wagons to retrieve the spilled-over grains to avoid contamination to stocks.**
- (x) **Damage Monitoring Cells have been set up at District, Regional and Zonal levels to regularly monitor quality of stocks and reduce damages. Each case of damage is thoroughly investigated and disciplinary action, wherever required, is invariably taken against the delinquents.**
- (xi) **Immediate action to segregate & recondition of the stocks whenever it gets affected.**
