

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, COOPERATION & FARMERS WELFARE

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 309
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 10TH AUGUST, 2021

STORAGE FACILITY FOR AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE

*309. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN:
SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH JAUNAPURIA:

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to provide adequate storage facility for agricultural produce and if so, the action taken thereon;
- (b) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that farmers are facing difficulties due to lack of storage facility and if so, the action taken thereon;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to construct sufficient storage facility in the country considering the demands of farmers;
- (d) if so, the details thereof particularly in Rajasthan;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to provide interest-free loans to farmers for building sufficient storage facility;
- (f) if so, the details of the action taken thereon; and
- (g) the details of the action taken by the Government during the last five years for making more storage facilities for agricultural produce?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री

(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (g) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 309 DUE FOR REPLY ON 10TH AUGUST, 2021.

(a) to (d): The Government is implementing Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure (AMI), a sub-scheme of Integrated Scheme for Agricultural Marketing (ISAM) under which assistance is provided for construction/ renovation of godowns/ warehouses in the rural areas of various States to enhance the storage capacity for agriculture produce. Under the scheme, Government provides subsidy at the rate of 25% and 33.33% on capital cost of the project based on the category of eligible beneficiary.

Since inception of the scheme and up to 30.06.2021, a total of 40,641 storage infrastructure projects (Godowns), with storage capacity of 699.3 Lakh MT have been assisted under AMI sub-scheme in entire country. A total of 1546 projects, with storage capacity of 30.2 Lakh MT have been assisted in Rajasthan State under AMI sub scheme.

In addition to schemes mentioned above, Department of Food and Public Distribution, Government of India, deals with creation of storage facilities for foodgrains procured under the Public Distribution System. Depending on requirement in specific areas and for modernization of the storage facilities, the Government implements Private Entrepreneurs Guarantee (PEG) scheme & Central Sector Scheme (erstwhile Plan Scheme). Under PEG Scheme, 144.19 Lakh MT capacity has been created out of which 2.35 Lakh MT is in Rajasthan region. Further, 6.51 Lakh MT capacity is under construction. Under Central Sector Scheme, a capacity of 2.03 Lakh MT has been created and 0.61 Lakh MT capacity is under construction.

(e) & (f): Government has approved a new central sector scheme for Financial Facility under Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF) of Rs. 1,00,000 Crore to provide a medium-long term loan facility for investment in viable projects for post-harvest market infrastructure

including warehousing facility and community farming assets through interest subvention and financial support. AIF provides financial support in terms of Interest Subvention and Credit Guarantee on loans for post harvest management projects like Warehouses, Cold Chains, Silos etc. and building community farming asset projects.

Under the scheme, Rs. 1 Lakh Crore is provided by banks and financial institutions as loans to Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS), Marketing Cooperative Societies, Farmer Producers Organizations (FPOs), Self Help Group (SHG), Farmers, Joint Liability Groups (JLG), Multipurpose Cooperative Societies, Agri-entrepreneurs, Startups and Central/State agency or Local Body sponsored Public Private Partnership Project.

All loans under this financing facility have interest subvention of 3% per annum up to a limit of Rs. 2 crore. This subvention is available for a maximum period of 7 years. Further, credit guarantee coverage is available for eligible borrowers from this financing facility under Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises (CGTMSE) scheme for a loan up to Rs. 2 crore. So far, Rs 3576.2 Crore have been sanctioned for 3898 warehouse projects.

(g): To promote more storage facilities for agricultural produce, Government is providing assistance through AMI sub-scheme of ISAM. During the last five years, 2,956 storage infrastructure projects (Godowns), with storage capacity of 79.7 Lakh MT have been assisted under the scheme across the country.

As per the information received from Department of Food and Public Distribution, Government of India, during the last five years, 36.32 Lakh MT storage capacity have been created in PEG scheme/ Central Sector Scheme/ Silos.

As mentioned above, so far, Rs 3576.2 Crore have been sanctioned for 3898 warehouse projects under AIF.