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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.4381 TO BE ANSWERED ON 30TH MARCH, 2022

QUALITY OF FOOD GRAINS

4381. SHRI NALIN KUMAR KATEEL:

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

- (a) whether the production of foodgrains has reached record level in the last three years and if so, the details thereof, year-wise;
- (b) whether the huge quantity of foodgrains with Food Corporation of India (FCI) has shorter shelf life and these foodgrains gets shrivelled and lacks luster and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has made any assessment of losses to the public exchequer from the huge wastage of foodgrains and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government is taking any measures to safeguard the quality of foodgrains by setting up adequate infrastructure for its storage; and
- (e) if so, the action plan chalked out in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI)

(a): The details on the production of Paddy & Wheat during the last three years and current year is tabulated as under:-

(Fig. in Million Tonnes)

KMS/RMS	Paddy	Wheat
2018-19	116.48	103.60
2019-20	118.87	107.86
2020-21	124.37	109.59
2021-22*	127.93	111.32

^{*} As per second advance estimates, Directorate of Economics & Statistics, DA&FW.

- (b): No Sir. Food Corporation of India (FCI) always stores foodgrains by adopting scientific method of preservation and even during longer storage, quality of foodgrains are maintained.
- (c): FCI handled large quantities of foodgrains for distribution under various welfare schemes of Government of India. Inspite of all precautionary measures only a meagre quantity of foodgrains gets damaged/become non-issuable mainly due to Natural Calamities like cyclone, flood, rain etc.
- (d) & (e): Government continuously assesses and monitors the storage capacity and based on the storage gap assessment, storage capacities are created/hired through following schemes:
- 1. Private Entrepreneurs Guarantee (PEG) Scheme.
- 2. Central Sector Scheme (CSS).
- 3. Construction of Silo's under PPP mode.

4. Hiring of godown from CWCs/SWCs/State Agencies.