

Government of India
Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
Department of Consumer Affairs

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1466 (OIH)
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.12.2024

WASTAGE OF FOODGRAINS

1466. SMT. DELKAR KALABEN MOHANBHAI:
(OIH)

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

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any survey related to foodgrains in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details and the reasons for the quantity of food wasted in Dadra and Nagar Haveli;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to formulate a policy to reduce food wastage in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to reduce wastage of food in Government offices, canteens and food shops; and
- (e) whether the Government has introduced incentives to reduce wastage of food items at private places and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण राज्य मंत्री
(श्री बी.एल. वर्मा)

THE MINISTER OF STATE
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI B.L.VERMA)

(a) to (e): No survey related to foodgrains in the country has been conducted by the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (MoCA, F&PD). However, MoCA, F&PD through its 11 Quality Control Cells all over the country supplements quality control measures of FCI and State Governments by taking random samples from warehouses of FCI, CWC and State Agencies, Fair Price Shops etc. and analyzing them. Corrective action is also taken as per Quality Manual as and when required.

Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) is committed to ensure the availability of safe food products including food grains to the consumers across the country. FSSAI conducts regular surveillance of various food products throughout the year for ensuring quality and safety of the food product. In September, 2024, a Surveillance Drive was conducted for 'Food grains including Pulses, Rice, Wheat, Oats, Millets, Lentil, Green gram etc.) to check safety and quality parameters.

There is no proposal under consideration of MoCA, F&PD for formulating a policy to reduce food wastage in the country. However, to reduce food wastage in government offices, canteens, food outlets, etc, Government has carried out publicity campaigns through print and electronic media from time to time to sensitize people against food wastage. In addition, States/UTs were advised by the Central Government to include a chapter on prevention of food wastage in the school syllabi in order to inculcate awareness among young students and sensitize them on the subject.