

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 360
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25TH MARCH, 2025

COLD STORAGES AND WAERHOUSES IN BIHAR

*360. SHRI ABHAY KUMAR SINHA:

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to implement any special scheme for increasing the number of cold storages and warehouses in Bihar and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the number of new cold storages and warehouses setup in Bihar during the last five years and the number of such cold storage and warehouses proposed to be set up, district-wise including in Aurangabad district;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to expand the cold storage network to provide access to storage facilities to farmers with small and medium landholdings, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the new policies being implemented by the Government to improve the storage facilities for fruits, vegetables and other agricultural products in Bihar?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
कृषि और किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 360 FOR 25TH MARCH, 2025 REGARDING COLD STORAGES AND WAREHOUSES IN BIHAR.

(a) to (d): Government is implementing various schemes under which financial assistance is available for setting up of cold storage for perishable horticultural produce throughout the country including Bihar.

Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare is implementing Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) under which financial assistance is provided for various horticulture activities including Construction/Expansion/Modernization of cold storages of capacity up to 5000 MT in the country including Bihar on the basis of Annual Action Plan (AAP) received from States/UTs. The component of Cold Storage is demand/entrepreneur driven for which Government assistance in the form of credit linked back ended subsidy is available at the rate of 35% of the project cost in general areas and 50% of the project cost in hilly and scheduled areas through respective State Horticulture Missions.

Under the scheme, assistance is available to individuals, Groups of farmers/ growers/ consumers, Partnership/ Proprietary firms, Self Help Groups (SHGs), Farmers Producer Organization (FPOs), Companies, Corporations, Cooperatives, Cooperative Marketing Federations, Local bodies, Agricultural Produce Market Committees (APMCs) & Marketing Boards and State Governments.

Besides, National Horticulture Board (NHB) is implementing a scheme namely "Capital Investment Subsidy for Construction/Expansion /Modernization of Cold Storages and Storages for Horticulture Products". Under the scheme, credit linked back-ended subsidy at the rate of 35% of the capital cost of the project in general areas and 50% in case of North East, hilly & scheduled areas for construction/expansion/modernization of cold storage and Controlled Atmosphere (CA) storage of capacity above 5000 MT and up to 20000 MT is available.

Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) is also implementing a Scheme for Integrated Cold Chain, Food Processing and Preservation Infrastructure as one of the components of Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY) with the objective of reducing post-harvest losses of horticulture and non-horticulture produce and providing remunerative price to farmers for their produce. Under the scheme, Ministry provides financial assistance in the form of grant-in-aid at the rate of 35% for general areas and 50% for North East and Himalayan States, Integrated Tribal Development Programme (ITDP) areas and Islands for storage and transport infrastructure and at the rate of 50% and 75% respectively for value addition and processing infrastructure subject to a maximum grant-in-aid of Rs. 10.00 crore per project for setting up of integrated cold chain projects including irradiation facility. Standalone cold storages are not covered under the Scheme.

All the above schemes are demand/entrepreneur driven through commercial ventures for which government assistance is in the form of credit linked back ended subsidy/grant-in-aid and is provided based on the proposals received from the States/entrepreneur.

Further, to strengthen agriculture infrastructure in the country, Government has launched Agriculture Infrastructure Funds (AIF) of Rs. 1.00 lakh crore. Under AIF, there is provision for collateral free term loan upto Rs. 2.00 crore and interest subvention of 3% on the term loan availed for creation of post-harvest infrastructure including establishment of cold storages.

For creation of Agricultural Marketing infrastructure including Scientific Storage **(including Cold storages)**, promoted by private entrepreneurs, cooperatives & State Agencies, the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Govt. of India is implementing "Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure (AMI)" sub-scheme of Integrated Scheme for Agricultural Marketing (ISAM) across the country **(including Bihar)** through its attached office Directorate of Marketing & Inspection (DMI).

AMI is a capital investment, open ended, Demand driven and credit linked scheme wherein back ended subsidy @ 25% and 33.33% is available based on the eligible category of beneficiary. Assistance is available to Individuals, Farmers **including farmers with Small and medium landholdings**, Group of farmers/growers, Agri-pruners, Registered Farmer Produce Organizations (FPOs), Cooperatives, and state agencies etc for creation of Agricultural Marketing infrastructure. Further, Under the AMI Scheme Stand-alone standardised cold storage units for storage of fruits & vegetables, as per standards promoted by NCCD up to 1000 MTs is allowed as per the MIDH cost norms for all the eligible beneficiaries across the country including the State of **Bihar**.

Further, Food Corporation of India (FCI) stores food grains (mainly wheat & rice) after procurement for Public Distribution System (PDS) and to maintain buffer stock.

The requirement of Storage capacity in FCI depends upon the level of procurement, requirement of buffer norms and Public Distribution System (PDS) operations for Rice and Wheat mainly. FCI continuously assesses and monitors the storage capacity and based on the storage gap assessment, storage capacities are arranged by way of construction of godowns, hiring of godowns 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 Central Warehousing Corporation (CWG)/ State Warehousing Corporation (SWGs)/ State Agencies
5. Hiring of godown through Private Warehousing Scheme (PWS)
6. Creation of godowns under Asset Monetization

The time-limit set for the construction of the godowns under various schemes is as per the Contract.

As per information received from State Horticulture Mission, Government of Bihar a total 13 numbers of Cold Storages have been established in the State during last five years.

Similarly, as per information received from Marketing Division and Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) 127 number of warehouses have been created in the Bihar during last five years.

The District wise details are at **Annexure – I**.

Annexure - I

District Wise Details of Warehouses and Cold Storage set up in Bihar during last 5 years

S. No.	Name of District	Number of Warehouses	Number of Cold Storage
1	Araria	13	
2	Arwal	0	
3	Aurangabad	0	
4	Banka	0	
5	Begusarai	11	4
6	Bhagalpur	4	
7	Bhojpur	0	
8	Buxar	1	
9	Darbhanga	5	
10	East champaran	0	1
11	Gaya	0	
12	Gopalganj	1	
13	Jamui	1	
14	Jehanabad	0	
15	Kaimur	0	
16	Katihar	7	1
17	Khagaria	9	
18	Kishanganj	1	
19	Lakhisarai	0	
20	Madhepura	1	1
21	Madhubani	0	
22	Munger	0	
23	Muzaffarpur	6	
24	Nalanda	0	
25	Nawada	1	
26	Patna	0	1
27	Purnia	55	1
28	Rohtas	1	
29	Saharsa	0	
30	Samastipur	4	3
31	Sheohar	0	
32	Saran	1	
33	Shekhpura	0	
34	Sitamarhi	1	
35	Siwan	1	
36	Supaul	0	
37	Vaishali	2	
38	West Champaran	1	1
	Total	127	13
