

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1338
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 11TH FEBRUARY, 2025

COLD STORAGE FACILITIES

†1338. SHRI SANJAY UTTAMRAO DESHMUKH:

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

- (a) whether the existing cold storages available across the country are sufficient as the demand of farmers and if so, the details thereof, State-wise particularly in Maharashtra;
- (b) the steps taken by the Government to increase the storage capacity of foodgrains and modernize the storage facilities across the country;
- (c) whether the Government has fixed any timeline in this regard, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Government is planning to set up decentralised storage capacity for farmers within the country and if so, the details thereof, State-wise, including Maharashtra; and
- (e) the details of the estimated funds required for this purpose and the time by which these facilities are likely to be established?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण राज्य मंत्री (SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

(a): A study was conducted by NABARD Consultancy Services (NABCONS) in 2015 on "All India Cold-chain Infrastructure Capacity (AICIC-2015)". The study assessed the required capacity of cold storages at that time as 351.00 lakh MT against the existing capacity of 318.23 lakh MT in 2014 including Maharashtra. The study also assessed the cold storage requirement upto the year 2019-20, which is 519.53 lakh MT. As per available information, there are 8760 cold storages in the country including Maharashtra with the capacity of 397.08 lakh MT as on 30th January, 2025. The State-wise details including Maharashtra are at **Annexure-I**.

(b) & (c): 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.

(d) & (e): In order to address the foodgrain storage challenges in rural areas, the Government on 31.05.2023, has approved the “World’s Largest Grain Storage Plan in Cooperative Sector”, which has been rolled out as a Pilot Project. The Plan entails creation of various agri. infrastructure at Primary Agricultural Credit Society (PACS) level, including godowns, custom hiring center, processing units, Fair Price Shops, etc. through convergence of various existing schemes of the Government of India (GoI), such as, Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF), Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure Scheme (AMI), Sub Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM) Pradhan Mantri Formalization of Micro Food Processing Enterprises Scheme (PMFME), etc. Under the Pilot Project of the Plan, construction of godowns has been completed in 11 PACS of 11 States including state of Maharashtra. Foundation Stone has been laid in 500 PACS of 10 States. The state wise details of 11 PACs including Maharashtra are at **Annexure - II**.

This plan is being implemented by utilizing the existing budgetary outlays under various Government of India schemes, such as AIF, AMI, SMAM, etc., that are being converged at the level of these primary level cooperative societies.

The objective of the initiative is to establish grain storage infrastructure at the PACS level to decentralize storage, reduce post-harvest losses, and enhance food security. This plan enables PACS to act as procurement and storage hubs, improving their economic viability while strengthening rural food supply chains. The initiative intends to reduce foodgrain wastage, cut transportation costs for farmers, and ensure better price realization, thus improving overall market efficiency and financial sustainability of PACS. By empowering cooperatives with modern storage infrastructure, this initiative aims to transform rural agricultural supply chains and create long-term economic benefits for farmers.

State wise distribution of Cold Storages as on 30.01.2025 in the Country

S. No.	Name of the State	No. of Project	Capacity (MT)
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands (UT)	4	2210
2	Andhra Pradesh & Telangana	480	1996340
3	Arunachal Pradesh	2	6000
4	Assam	43	206742
5	Bihar	316	1490200
6	Chandigarh (UT)	7	12462
7	Chhattisgarh	130	577663
8	Delhi	97	129857
9	Goa	29	7705
10	Gujarat	1023	4042770
11	Haryana	386	870703
12	Himachal Pradesh	89	181318
13	Jammu & Kashmir	92	151833
14	Jharkhand	59	242655
15	Karnataka	268	912417
16	Kerala	202	96655
17	Lakshadweep (UT)	1	15
18	Madhya Pradesh	320	1381827
19	Maharashtra	665	1219851
20	Manipur	2	4500
21	Meghalaya	4	8200
22	Mizoram	3	4071
23	Nagaland	5	8150
24	Orissa	182	579321
25	Pondicherry (UT)	4	185
26	Punjab	770	2604206
27	Rajasthan	190	648908
28	Sikkim	2	2100
29	Tamil Nadu	188	399690
30	Telangana	116	617131
31	Tripura	14	46354
32	Uttar Pradesh	2488	15096476
33	Uttarakhand	62	206848
34	West Bengal	517	5952997
	Total	8760	39708361

(Source: Directorate of Marketing and Inspection (DMI) upto 2009, National Horticulture Board (NHB), National Horticulture Mission (NHM), Horticulture Mission for North East & Himalayan States (HMNEH)) and MoFPI

Annexure – II

State-wise details of 11 PACs in the country including Maharashtra

S. No.	States/UT	District	Name of PACS	Capacity of Godown (MT)	Infrastructure created
1.	Maharashtra	Amravati	Neripanglai Vividh Karyakari Sahakari Sanstha	3,000	Godown
2.	Uttar Pradesh	Mirzapur	Bahudeshiya Prathamik Grameen Sahakari Samiti Limited, Kotwa Panday	1,500	Godown
3.	Madhya Pradesh	Balaghat	BahudeshiyaPrathamik Krishi SaakhSahakari Society Maryadit Parswada	500	Godown + Paddy Primary processing unit
4.	Gujarat	Ahmedabad	The Chandranagar Group Seva Sahakari Mandli Limited	750	Godown
5.	Tamil Nadu	Theni	Silamarathupatti Primary Agriculture Credit Society	1,000	Godown
6.	Rajasthan	Sri Ganganagar	Ghumudwali Gram Seva Sahakari Samiti Limited	250	Godown + Seed grading unit + Custom hiring center
7.	Telangana	Karimnagar	Primary Agriculture Credit Society Limited, Gambhiropet	500	Godown+ processing unit
8.	Karnataka	Bidar	Primary Agriculture Cooperative Federation Limited, Ekamba	1,000	Godown+ processing unit
9.	Tripura	Gomati	Khilpara Primary Agriculture Credit Society Limited	250	Godown+ processing unit+Grameenhaat
10.	Assam	Kamrup	2 No. Pub Bongshar G.P.S.S Limited	500	Godown
11.	Uttarakhand	Dehradun	Bahudeshiya Kisan Seva Sahakari Samiti Limited, Sahaspur	500	Godown
	Total			9,750	
