

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1947
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 11TH MARCH, 2025

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN TO ESTABLISH NEW COLD STORAGES

†1947. SHRI RAM SHIROMANI VERMA:

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

- (a) whether the present number of cold storages functional across the country are sufficient to meet the demands of farmers and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether there is still a huge shortage of the cold storages in the country, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to formulate a comprehensive plan to establish more/new cold storages across the country including Uttar Pradesh to meet the increasing demand; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken/being taken by the Government for the said purpose in various States of the country including Uttar Pradesh?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण राज्य मंत्री (SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

(a) to (d): 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 Uttar Pradesh. 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 Uttar Pradesh with the capacity of 397.08 lakh MT as on 30th January, 2025. The State-wise details including Uttar Pradesh are at **Annexure-I**.

Government is implementing various schemes under which financial assistance is available for setting up of cold storage for perishable horticultural produce throughout the country.

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 Uttar Pradesh on the basis of Annual Action Plan (AAP) received from States/UTs. AAPs are prepared by the States/UTs based on their requirement, capacity and

availability of resources. 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) implements 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.

Annexure – I

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
