

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4876

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 01ST APRIL, 2025

COLD STORAGE FACILITIES FOR RED CHILLI

4876. SHRI KUNDURU RAGHUVVEER:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that red chilli prices typically fall during peak harvesting season due to market saturation, only to rise significantly later;
- (b) whether the Government has assessed the necessity of establishing additional cold storage facilities in major red chilli-growing areas to help farmers store their produce and avoid distress sales;
- (c) the current availability of cold storage facilities in red chilli-producing States, particularly in the State of Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka and other major chilli-growing regions;
- (d) the comparison of red chilli market prices during peak harvesting and post-harvesting periods in different States over the last three years; and
- (e) the steps the Government is taking to encourage the construction of more cold storage units, and whether any subsidy or financial assistance schemes are available for farmers or entrepreneurs for this purpose?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण राज्य मंत्री (SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

- (a): The prices of red chilli are generally influenced by overall demand & supply and trend to fall in peak harvesting season in major producing states.
- (b): A study was conducted by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) Consultancy Services (NABCONS) in 2015 on "All India Cold Chain Infrastructure Capacity (AICIC-2015)". The study assessed the required capacity of cold storages for perishables including chilli at that time was 351.00 lakh metric tonnes (MT) against the existing capacity of 318.23 lakh MT in 2014 in the country. The study also assessed the cold storage requirement upto the year 2019-20, which has 519.53 lakh MT in the country. As per available information, there are 8760 cold storages in the country with the capacity of 397.08 lakh MT as on 31st January, 2025.
- (c) & (d): The state wise distribution of cold storage sanctioned under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) scheme in the country is given at **Annexure-I**.

The market prices of red (dry) chillies during peak harvesting and post harvesting periods in major producing states like Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka & Telangana are given at **Annexure - II**.

(e): The Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (DA&FW) is implementing MIDH scheme under which financial assistance is provided for various horticulture activities including construction/ expansion/ modernization of cold storages of capacity up to 5000 MT to reduce the post-harvest losses and storage of perishable horticultural produce including chilli in the country covering Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Karnataka. 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.

Besides, National Horticulture Board (NHB) is also 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.

Further, Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure (AMI)" sub-scheme of Integrated Scheme for Agricultural Marketing (ISAM) is implemented through the Directorate of Marketing & Inspection (DMI) for creation of Agricultural Marketing infrastructure including cold storages.

State wise distribution of cold storage under MIDH scheme as on 31.01.2025

S. No.	Name of State	No. of Project	Capacity (MT)
1	Andhra Pradesh	254	1471833
2	Arunachal Pradesh	1	3983
3	Assam	37	203734
4	Bihar	174	734438
5	Chandigarh	1	246
6	Chhattisgarh	89	374458
7	Delhi	9	20655
8	Goa	1	3633
9	Gujarat	850	3120386
10	Haryana	171	549792
11	Himachal Pradesh	61	126608
12	Jammu & Kashmir	67	309412
13	Jharkhand	43	198735
14	Karnataka	159	800009
15	Kerala	6	16044
16	Madhya Pradesh	186	762773
17	Maharashtra	330	803946
18	Manipur	1	1600
19	Meghalaya	1	5000
20	Mizoram	1	3471
21	Nagaland	1	5000
22	Odisha	95	369319
23	Punjab	449	1535305
24	Rajasthan	125	505136
25	Sikkim	1	100
26	Tamil Nadu	74	280972
27	Telangana	105	605131
28	Tripura	5	24904
29	Uttar Pradesh	1847	10107253
30	Uttarakhand	21	43368
31	West Bengal	151	614051
	Total	5316	23601296

Source: MIDH Section, DA&FW

Mandi prices of dry (red) chillies in major producing states during peak harvest & post harvest period since last 3 yrs.**In (Rs/Quintal)**

State	2022-23		2023-24		2024-25	
	Mandi Wt. Avg Price during Peak Harvest Season (October 22 to March 23)	Mandi Wt. Avg Price during Post Harvest Season (April 22 to Sept 22)	Mandi Wt. Avg Price during Peak Harvest Season (October 23 to March 24)	Mandi Wt. Avg Price during Post Harvest Season (April 23 to Sept 23)	Mandi Wt. Avg Price during Peak Harvest Season (October 24 to March 25)	Mandi Wt. Avg Price during Post Harvest Season (April 24 to Sept 24)
Andhra Pradesh	17,751	16,646	16,425	18,655	11,997	13,831
Karnataka	25,482	15,630	25,933	27,004	19,142	18,754
Telangana	19,934	14,393	18,389	20,147	9,224	12,836

Note: Dried red chillies are reported on the Agmarknet portal as dry chillies by the APMCs concerned under the respective state authorities.

Source: Agmarknet
