

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE  
**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2630**

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 16<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2025

**RECORD KHARIF RICE OUTPUT**

2630. THIRU DAYANIDHI MARAN:

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

- (a) the first advance estimate for 2025-26 kharif-rice output and whether the Ministry has calculated the expected procurement requirement, buffer stock levels and expected additional burden on public warehousing and PDS pipeline;
- (b) the manner in which the Ministry plans to ensure fair and timely procurement and MSP payments to small and marginal farmers across all States, especially in regions struggling with storage or transport bottlenecks;
- (c) the measures being taken to prevent post-harvest losses, waste and spoilage given the sharp increase in rice output, including expansion of cold storage, warehousing and modern silos;
- (d) whether there is a crop-diversification plan to address the observed decline in pulses and oilseeds output and to reduce dependence on rice monoculture; and
- (e) the manner in which the Government ensures sustainable water use and climate-resilience practices in rice cultivation given record output, possibly requiring increased irrigation or groundwater extraction?

**ANSWER**

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

- (a): First advance estimates for 2025-26 Kharif is for 12,45,03,940 MT of rice. The paddy procurement estimates (in terms of rice) fixed during KMS 2025-26 (Kharif crop) under Central Pool are at Annexure- I.
- (b): To ensure the benefit of MSP to farmers, central nodal agencies (CNAs) in coordination with State Government and State Level Agencies (SLAs) open adequate procurement centres for convenience of farmers. Wide publicity and awareness are conducted through print, electronic & social media to ensure that all registered farmers may take advantage of MSP procurement. Payment to pre-registered farmers under PSS is made directly into their bank accounts through Aadhaar authenticated Direct Benefits Transfer (DBT)/ Aadhar verified Bank Account mode only.

(c): Government through FCI mainly stores wheat & rice after procurement for PDS operation and to maintain buffer stock. As on 01.11.2025, total Covered Storage Capacity available with FCI is 482.23 LMT (Owned – 147.38 LMT + Hired – 322.43 LMT+ CAP-12.42 LMT) and 347.13 LMT covered capacity available with the State agencies for storage of Central Pool foodgrain stock across the country. Besides, 432.93 LMT storage capacity is with state agencies.

Continuous assessment and monitoring of the storage capacity is done and based on the storage gap assessment, the storage capacities are created/hired through following schemes:

1. Private Entrepreneurs Guarantee (PEG) Scheme
2. Central Sector Scheme (CSS) 2017-25
3. Construction of Silo's under PPP mode
4. Hiring of godown from CWCs/SWCs/State Agencies
5. Hiring of godown through Private Warehousing Scheme (PWS).
  
6. Creation of godowns under Asset Monetization
  
7. CAP Hiring Scheme -2025
  
8. Modified PEG scheme for NE & Hilly states with longer guarantee period of 15 years.

#### **Creation of modern steel silos:**

Food Corporation of India (FCI's) operational steel-silo capacity has increased to 29.5 LMT, with projects underway to raise it to nearly 90 LMT in coming 2-3 years, marking a major shift from traditional godown-based storage to modern scientific systems.

Main objective of this reform is to modernize India's food grain storage and supply chain through durable, efficient and technologically advanced steel silos that reduce post-harvest losses, preserve grain quality, enable faster and safer rail-based movement, requires one third of the land in comparison to conventional godown, and lower logistics costs.

Silos ensure better grain quality, reduced wastage and improving. For the sector, silos provide higher operational efficiency, faster bulk handling, reduced spoilage, lower labour needs and optimized supply-chain operations, strengthening the long-term storage capacity and enhancing sustainability and cost-effectiveness.

The total number of Operational cold storages of Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) state-wise are as under:-

S.No.	State	Location	Capacity in MT
1.	Maharashtra	CW Vashi	395
2.	Maharashtra	CW Nasik	2300
3.	Gujarat	CW Vadodara	1250

(d): Government of India is implementing the Crop Diversification Programme (CDP) under Pradhan Mantri - Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (PM-RKVY) scheme in the Original Green Revolution States Haryana, Punjab & Western Uttar Pradesh since 2013-14 to divert the area of water intensive paddy crop to alternative crops, which require less water under CDP, assistance is given for alternative crop demonstrations, farm mechanization and value addition, site specific activities and contingency for awareness and capacity building. Further, Crop Diversification Programme has been extended to major tobacco growing states to encourage tobacco growing farmers to shift to alternate crops/cropping system w.e.f. 2015-16.

(e): Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is implementing National Innovations in Climate Resilient Agriculture (NICRA) project that studies the impact of climate change on agriculture. Under the project, risk and vulnerability assessment to climate change has been carried out for 651 agricultural districts as per Inter-governmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) protocols. 310 districts were identified as vulnerable out of which 109 districts have been categorized as 'very high' and 201 districts as 'highly' vulnerable. For enhancing the resilience and adaptive capacity of farmers to climate variability, location-specific climate resilient technologies such as system of rice intensification, aerobic rice, direct seeding of rice, zero till wheat sowing etc. have been demonstrated under the project through KVKs in 151 districts covering 448 Climate Resilient Villages. Drought and flood tolerant climate-resilient varieties of rice, were demonstrated in several NICRA villages. Besides, training programmes are conducted under Agricultural Technology Management Agency (ATMA) on various issues of agricultural practices.

Under NICRA, technical assistance for small and marginal farmers is extended to additional vulnerable districts beyond the 151 currently covered districts, to promote adoption of climate-resilient practices. Village level institutions through farmers' participatory approach, such as Village Climate Risk Management Committees, seed and fodder banks have been established for smooth functioning and need based technology penetration. The project is contributing to farmers' capacity building and improved crop yields, thereby leading to the socio-economic development.

Several schemes have been initiated under National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA), to promote sustainable agriculture practices. Per Drop More Crop (PDMC) scheme increases water use efficiency at the farm level through micro irrigation technologies i.e. drip and sprinkler. Rainfed Area Development focuses on Integrated Farming System for enhancing productivity and minimizing risks associated with climatic variability. The Soil Health & Fertility scheme promotes integrated nutrient management through judicious use of chemical fertilizers. Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture, Agroforestry & National Bamboo Mission also promote climate resilience in agriculture. Further, Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana along with weather index based Restructured Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme provide a comprehensive insurance cover against crop failure by providing financial support to farmers suffering crop loss/damage arising out of unforeseen natural calamities. ICAR has released 2900 varieties during last 10 years (2014-2024) of which 2661 varieties are tolerant to one or more biotic and/or abiotic stresses.

**Annexure-I**

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>State/UT</b>	<b>Paddy Procurement Estimates (in terms of rice) (In LMT)</b>
1.	Punjab (including Chandigarh)	116.00
2.	Chhattisgarh	73.00
3.	Odisha	40.00
4.	Uttar Pradesh	39.00
5.	Haryana	36.00
6.	Telangana	36.00
7.	Madhya Pradesh	29.00
8.	Bihar	25.00
9.	West Bengal	18.00
10.	Tamil Nadu	16.00
11.	Andhra Pradesh	16.00
12.	Maharashtra	7.00
13.	Uttarakhand	5.00
14.	Assam	4.00
15.	Kerala	2.00
16.	Jharkhand	0.71
17.	Gujarat	0.24
18.	J&K	0.20
19.	Himachal Pradesh	0.16
20.	Tripura	0.12
21.	Karnataka	0.05
22.	Puducherry	0.01
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>463.49</b>

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