

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION**  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**QUESTION NO 12.11.2010**  
**ANSWERED ON**  
**ROTTENING OF RICE DUE TO SEEPAGE IN FCI GODOWNS .**

510

Shri Satyavrat Chaturvedi

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :-

- (a) whether Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) has expressed sorrow over rotting of rice of the value of Rs. 450 crore due to seepage in Food Corporation of India's godowns during the period from 2003 to 2008;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that storage loss is higher in Punjab as compared to Haryana, if so, the quantity thereof;
- (c) the steps taken by Government to check the storage loss owing to seepage; and
- (d) whether Government would also try to ascertain that storage loss is actual or there is some other reason behind it?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE  
MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

(PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a)& (b): The Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) in its Report no. 9 of 2009-10 at para no. 6.1.2, had observed that Storage loss in rice observed during the period 2003-04 to 2007-08 in Punjab Region as compared to Haryana Region was in excess by 3.23 Lakh MT valued at Rs. 450.65 crore. The year-wise details of storage loss in respect Punjab & Haryana region from 2003-04 to 2007-08 is enclosed at Annexure-I.

(c): The following steps /measures are taken to ensure safe storage of foodgrains to avoid damages to the foodgrains-.

(i) Foodgrains are stored only in scientifically built godowns.

(ii) The CAP stocks are stored on elevated plinths and wooden crates are used as dunnage material. The CAP stocks are properly covered with polythene covers and tied with nylon ropes. The CAP stocks are regularly aerated to bring down the moisture content.

(iii) A number of preventive steps are carried out for the safe storage of foodgrains like regular prophylactic and curative measures for the control of insects and pests. Fumigation is also carried out at regular intervals.

(iv) The principle of `first in first out` (FIFO) is followed to the extent possible so as to avoid long storage of foodgrains in the godowns.

(d): The storage losses are calculated as per the laid down procedure and strict vigilance checks are kept to monitor the storage losses.