

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 07.03.2011
ANSWERED ON
ADDITIONAL STORAGE SPACE FOR FOODGRAINS .

1104

Shri Rama Chandra Khuntia

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :
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- (a) whether Government has set a target of creating additional storage space for 150 lakh tonnes for the future crops;
- (b) if so, the additional storage capacity created so far, State-wise;
- (c) the reasons for very slow pace of creating additional storage capacity for foodgrains; and
- (d) the fresh steps taken by Government for storage of wheat during the current rabi season and also to prevent damage of bumper wheat crop during the next monsoon season?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. The Government has set a target for creation of additional covered storage space of about 150 lakh tonnes for foodgrains in the country under the Guarantee scheme of FCI. The State-wise details of capacities sanctioned under the scheme are at Annexure. Out of this tenders have already been finalized for 16.06 lakh tonnes so far, for creation of capacity by the private entrepreneurs. Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) and State Warehousing Corporations (SWCs) are also constructing 5.31 and 10.64 lakh tonnes respectively under the Scheme.

As on 20.2.2011, storage capacity of 1.13 lakh tonnes has been created under the Scheme. The additional storage capacity created so far, State-wise is as follows:-

State	Capacity Created (in MTs)
Chhattisgarh	5,000
Haryana	27,500
Maharashtra	20,020
Punjab	60,800
Total	1,13,320

(c) & (d): The guarantee scheme for Construction of Godowns for FCI has taken some time, as detailed analyses of requirements were to be done both at State level and by FCI. Comprehensive documents had also to be prepared for tenders and agreements with the private entrepreneurs, besides the time required for the two bid tendering process. However, for short term usage and storage of wheat during the current Rabi season, the General Managers (Region) of FCI have been given full powers for hiring of private godowns