

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2636  
ANSWERED ON:08.08.2003  
SHELF LIFE OF WHEAT IN PLASTIC BAGS  
M. JAGANNATH

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

- (a) whether the Government have explored the possibility of storing wheat, rice and sugar in plastic bags;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the shelf life of wheat, rice and sugar packed in plastic bags in bulk; and
- (d) the extent to which it has prevented storage losses?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION ( SHRI S. MAHARIA )

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): Indian Grain Storage Management and Research Institute, Hapur (IGMRI) has conducted a short term study to find out the suitability of PP/HDPE bags for the storage of foodgrains. It has been found that anti-slip PP/HDPE bags are suitable for storage of foodgrains. Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) have prescribed standards on PP/HDPE bags for packaging of sugar after taking into account the health and safety aspects.

(c)&(d): No such study has been conducted so far. However, a decision has been taken to entrust a long term study on this aspect to IGMRI.