

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2131
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2000
PERFORMANCE OF STORAGE AND CONSTRUCTION OF GODOWNS
HARIBHAI PARTHIBHAI CHAUDHARY

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

- (a) whether the performance of providing assistance for storage of food items, construction of warehouses and godowns, retail outlets in rural areas and purchase of vehicles is not satisfactory;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the responsibility has been fixed on any officer for unsatisfactory performance;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons for not fixing any responsibility?

Answer

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

(a), (b), (c), (d) and (e) : Financial assistance is provided to States /UTs under two centrally sponsored schemes, (a) `Construction of Godowns` for creating adequate storage capacity in the needy areas, and (b) under `Purchase of Vans / Trucks`, to strengthen the PDS infrastructure. The vehicles sanctioned under the latter scheme can be operated as mobile fair price shops or can be used as carriers for door delivery of food grains to fair price shops in inaccessible areas.

Financial assistance is sanctioned to the States/UTs based on the proposals received from them provided there is no pendency of the utilization certificates or any refund of unutilized amount out of the past assistance sanctioned to the State Governments/UTs as per the terms and conditions of the scheme. During 1999-2000 an amount of Rs.23.35 crores has been sanctioned against the budgetary allocation of Rs.22.50 crores under these two schemes.

Proper implementation of the scheme depends upon the collective responsibility of the State Governments/UTs. After sanction of financial assistance the State Governments/UTs and their implementing agencies have to ensure completion of construction of godowns, or purchase of vans as well as submission of UCs within the stipulated time period. Defaulter State Governments / UT administrations are regularly reminded regarding non-submission of UCs of the past assistance. No fresh proposal of the State/UT is considered if there are pending Utilisation Certificates or any refund of the unutilized amount from the past assistance is pending.