

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3439

ANSWERED ON:15.05.2006

WASTAGE OF FOODGRAINS

Mahato Shri Bir Sing;Singh Deo Smt. Sangeeta Kumari

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

- (a) whether during the cultivation and harvesting of crop, 20 million tonne of foodgrains get spoiled;
- (b) if so, the details and reasons therefor;
- (c) the efforts made by the Government for resolving this problem; and
- (d) the reaction of the Government on the success achieved therein?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION ( DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH )

(a)&(b): During cultivation and harvesting, the loss of foodgrains happens in standing maturing crop due to various insect pests, rodents and diseases. Terminal drought or undue differential ambient temperature or other aberrant climatic conditions also cause crop loss in terms of grain weight.

(c)&(d): The farmers are advised from time to time to avoid loss of crop/grain by taking up judicious application of pesticides, cultural practices as well as other suitable pest management approaches. For increasing production & productivity and to reduce losses by diseases & pests, Government of India is implementing Integrated Cereals Development Programme in Rice Based Cropping Systems Areas (ICDP-Rice), ICDP-Wheat and ICDP-Coarse Cereals under Macro Management Mode of Agriculture. A separate Centrally Sponsored Scheme viz; Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil palm and Maize (ISOPOM) is also under implementation for increasing production and productivity of these crops including pulses & maize. Under these schemes, assistance is provided for the transfer of production & plant protection technologies through demonstrations on Integrated Pest Management (IPM) & training of farmers & Extension workers. Besides, assistance is also provided for production & supply of seed of varieties resistant to diseases, supply of suitable farm implements/sprayers etc.