

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3450
ANSWERED ON:15.05.2006
ANNUAL ASSISTANCE FOR STORAGE ETC
Chavda Shri Harisinh Pratapsinh;Thummar Shri Virjibhai

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

- (a) whether the disbursal of assistance for foodgrain storage, construction of godowns, retail outlets, purchase of vehicles has been satisfactory;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether responsibility has been fixed for poor performance in disbursal of the said assistance;
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

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),(c),(d),(e)&(f): The Department of Food and Public Distribution implemented schemes of construction of godowns and purchase of vehicles (Vans/Trucks) in the 1980. Assistance was disbursed to the State Governments under the scheme for purchase of mobile vans/trucks for distribution of essential commodities in rural , hilly, remote and other dis-advantaged areas where static/regular FPS are not viable/feasible. The vehicles could also be utilized for effective door delivery of PDS commodities through FPS. Since the inception of the Scheme in 1985-86 upto 31.03.2002, a sum of Rs. 6531.51 lakhs were released for the purchase of 1569 vans/trucks. However, the Scheme was discontinued w.e.f. 01.04.2002, as a result of review of all plan schemes based on Zero based budget methodology undertaken by the Department of Expenditure.

Assistance was also provided to States/UTs for construction of smaller godowns upto 2000 MT capacity specially in remote, hilly, rural and tribal areas in order to ensure smooth flow of PDS items to fair price shops in these areas under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme. The funds under this scheme were sanctioned as 50% loan and 50% subsidy. Since the inception of the Scheme in 1983-84 an amount of Rs. 9838.26 lakhs has been released to 25 States/UTs for construction of 727 godowns having total capacity of 469146 MTs. Successful implementation of the scheme was dependent upon the State Governments/UT for almost every parameter like actual availability of land, construction of approach roads and work of actual construction of godowns. The Scheme was discontinued w.e.f. the 10th Five Year Plan, as a result of review of all plan schemes based on Zero based budget methodology undertaken by the Department of Expenditure.