

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3457
ANSWERED ON:15.05.2006
GODOWNS NEAR PROCUREMENT CENTRES
Rana Shri Kashi Ram;Singh Deo Smt. Sangeeta Kumari

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

- (a) whether foodgrains procured by the Government have to be transported over long distance due to non-availability of sufficient storage facility locally;
- (b) if so, the quantum of such foodgrains transported during the last two years alongwith the amount spent on transportation and transit, year-wise; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to construct godowns near the procurement centres?

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): No, Sir.

(b): Foodgrains are transported by the Food Corporation of India to the consuming States for releases under TPDS and Other Welfare Schemes from the procuring States.

As per provisional figures available, a quantity of 381.48 lakh MT of foodgrains was transported during the year 2004-05 and Rs.2,944.80 crores were spent on its transportation. As per revised estimates, a quantity of 344.23 lakh MT of foodgrains was transported during the year 2005-06 and Rs.2,886.51 crores were spent on its transportation.

(c): The storage capacity available with Food Corporation of India (FCI), as on 31.03.2006, was 25.56 million tonnes against which stocks held were 11.87 million tonnes. As the available storage capacity is sufficient in all the States it has been decided not to construct more godowns, except in Jammu & Kashmir and North Eastern States.