

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4701
ANSWERED ON:22.05.2006
FOODGRAIN STORAGE IN PLASTIC BAGS
Jagannath Dr. M.

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

- (a) whether any study has been conducted to explore the feasibility of storing wheat, rice and sugar in plastic bags;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has conducted a comparative study to assess the shelf life of wheat, rice and sugar packed in plastic bags and PP/HDPE bags; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a), (b), (c) & (d): The Indian Grain Storage Management and Research Institute (IGMRI) Hapur has conducted a short term study to find out the suitability of PP/HDPE Bags for storage of wheat and rice. The study suggested that anti-slip PP/HDPE bags may be used for storage of foodgrains by Food Corporation of India (FCI)/Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC)/State Warehousing Corporation (SWC) and other State Agencies in a phased manner, preferably to begin with for the operational stocks.

The IGMRI has been entrusted with a Long Terms Study for a period of three years in FCI godowns situated in different agro climatic zones to find out suitability of PP/HDPE Bags for storage of wheat and rice in comparison to jute bags which commenced recently.