

Scheme for setting up of cold storages

1877. SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any special scheme for setting up of cold storage/ storages particularly for onion storage, across the country to reduce the post harvest losses;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of funds released for the purpose during last three years;
- (d) the details of storage capacity existing prior to the scheme and new storage capacity created after the scheme;
- (e) whether Government received any complaints of misuse of funds released for the purpose; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) The Department of Agriculture & Cooperation is implementing two centrally sponsored" schemes, namely Horticulture Mission for North Eastern and Himalayan States (HMNEH) since 2001-02 and National Horticulture Mission (NHM) since 2005-06 for holistic development of horticulture. There are various components under above mentioned schemes which includes setting up of cold storages for reducing post harvest losses of horticulture crops. Further, a central sector scheme, National Horticulture Board (NHB) since 1999-2000 is implementing a component for construction/expansion/modernization of cold storages for horticulture produce under its scheme.

Besides, Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI), Agricultural & Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) and National Cooperative Development Corporation are also implementing schemes for development of cold chain in the country.

Further, cold Storages are not preferred for storage of onion. The storage of onion is done in ventilated storages.

- (c) Funds released during last three years under various schemes for development of cold storages is as under:

(Rs. in crore)

Sl.No.	Scheme	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
1.	National Horticulture Mission (NHM)	15.52	101.33	105.78
2.	National Horticulture Board (NHB)	40.85	51.42	50.09
3.	Horticulture Mission for North Eastern and Himalayan States (HMNEH) for PHM including cold storage^	4.05	2.00	13.75
4.	Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) for common facility including cold storage	36.50	18.72	26.20
5.	Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI)	8.23	43.50	22.00
6.	National Cooperative Development Cooperation (NCDC)	5.80	6.26	5.73
TOTAL		110.95	223.23	223.55

(d) As per report of High Level Expert Committee constituted by this Department, report republished in 1999, the cold storage capacity during 1998 was 103.53 lakh MT. Additional cold storage capacity created with the intervention of these schemes is 147.99 lakh MT (as on 31.03.2011).

(e) and (f) This Department has not received any complaint for misuse of funds released for the purpose.

Suicide by farmers in Kerala

1878. SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Kerala has submitted any proposal or request for resolving the problem of farmers' suicides/farmers' debt trap in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has introduced any new scheme to address the alarming situation in farming sector all over the country; and