

MOS INAUGURATES FOOD CORPORATION OF INDIA (FCI) DEPOT IN TAMENGLONG, MANIPUR

Relevant for: Indian Economy | Topic: Food processing and related industries in India: scope and significance, location, upstream and downstream requirements and supply chain management

Hon'ble Minister of State for Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution and Rural Development, Sadhvi Niranjan Jyoti inaugurated Food Corporation of India's Depot at Tamenglong, Manipur today.

The Hon'ble Minister said that FCI has come a long way in the North Eastern States and increased its storage capacity from 5.05 Lakh Metric Tonne in 2014 to 8.21 Lakh Metric Tonne in 2023. Hon'ble Minister added that the FCI has also capitalised the procurement potential in the states of Assam and Tripura by effective handholding with the respective state Governments. Assam and Tripura has procured quantities of 1,21,630 MT and 28,476 MT paddy respectively so far during the ongoing KMS 2022-23 which will further increase as the season progresses. She said that the aim of procurement in North Eastern States has the twin objective of making itself-reliant in food grain requirement and also to provide effective price support to the farmers.

While addressing the gathering virtually, the Chairman and Managing Director of FCI Shri Ashok K.K Meena highlighted the role of FCI in not only providing the food security to the nation but also playing its role of effective intervention for price stabilisation. He said that in tune with the policy of the Government of India, FCI has started Open Market Sales Scheme (Domestic), (OMSS) to control the prices of wheat in the open market and to achieve effective price stabilisation. He added that 30 Lakh Metric Tonnes of Wheat would be offloaded in the open market under the said scheme. He highlighted that in the state of Assam, Tripura, Mizoram and Meghalaya, FCI has floated tenders under this scheme for a total quantity of 16400 MT wheat so that Flour mills, Private Traders, Bulk buyers and Manufacturers of wheat products may lift the stocks from the designated depots of FCI. This will be followed by further tenders.

The Executive Director (NE), Shri D.P Shukla during his address said that with the creation of such capacities, FCI can keep stocks for more than four months and added that FCI will try to enhance it up to six months' PDS requirement to meet out any kind of eventualities. He added that FCI is creating 1,05,890MT of Storage space IN North East Zone under Central Sector Scheme (CSS) of Government of India. Till date, a capacity of 53,930 MT has been created since 2017 and a further capacity of about 30,000 MT is coming up by the end of this year in North East. Shri Shukla said that this newly created storage capacity of 4730 MT at Tamenglong will cater to the food grain requirement of Tamenglong and Noney Revenue districts. He added that with FCI's enhanced stacking norms, this godown can stock food grains upto 5900 MT.

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