

**ANDHRA PRADESH STATE CIVIL SUPPLIES CORPORATION LIMITED**  
**Regd.Office:6-3-655/1/A. Civil Supplies Bhavan, Somajiguda, Hyderabad -82.**

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D. VARAPRASAD, IAS.,  
V.C. & MANAGING DIRECTOR

Lr.No. Mktg/M-2/4938/Gen. Instructions/DCP/KMS-2012-13.

Date:- 09.05.2013.

**CIRCULAR NO. 133**

Sub:- APSCSCL – Marketing – Code of practices for covered storage and cover & plinth(CAP) storage of food grains - Reg.

Ref:- CCS Ref.No. PI(1)4745/2012 dated 26.04.2013.

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The CCS, vide reference cited has forwarded code of practices for covered storage and cover & plinth (CAP) storage of food grains which is forwarded alongwith enclosures for information and strict compliance.

It may be ensured that the quality of rice procured under DCP and CMR should meet the desired standards under the Provision of Food Adultration Act., and the rice so procured shall be preserved with out any damage till issued out under TPDS and other welfare schemes. The image of the Corporation shall be held high and no opportunity shall be given to the print and electronic media to report adversely against the quality of rice stocks procured, preserved and issued out by the Corporation.

The copies of relevant instructions may be supplied to all Technical Staff for guidance and compliances in your district.

Encls: a.a.

  
For VC & Managing Director

To:

All District Managers

APSCSCL

Copy to:

1. The Zonal Manager

APSCSCL

Vizag, Kakinada, Karimnagar, Nalgonda, Kurnool, Kadapa & Hyderabad....for information and neccessary action.

2. All the JCs & EOEDs .....for information and necessary action.

C-20-1713/6-4-13

संयुक्त सचिव

भारत सरकार

उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्रालय

खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण विभाग

कृषि भवन, नई दिल्ली - 110001

JOINT SECRETARY

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS,

FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

KRISHI BHAWAN, NEW DELHI-110001

Dated: 26 March, 2013



Ajai Saxena

Joint Secretary (I, EOP&SRA)

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Email: jsimpex.fpd@nic.in

D.O.No. 40-3/2013-QCC/44

6 APR 2013  
Dear Sh. Singh.

As you are aware that State Governments and their agencies are engaged in procurement of foodgrains under Minimum Support Price operations or on behalf of Food Corporation of India (FCI) and in storing foodgrains before issue to fair price shops or before handing over to FCI. In past, there have been reports of damage to foodgrains stocks in various parts of the country in electronic and print media though may be exaggerated but tarnishing the image of procuring agencies and the Government. This issue also drew attention of the Hon'ble Supreme Court.


2. You would appreciate, it is of utmost importance that the quality of Central Pool Stocks of foodgrain are preserved properly by following the relevant guidelines and instructions issued for proper procurement, safe storage and effective distribution of foodgrain. Procurement of foodgrains under Central Pool has been increasing year after year due to remunerative and curative Minimum Support Price being offered by the Government to the farmers. Continuous monitoring of quality of foodgrains during procurement, storage and distribution is need of the hour. It is necessary that instructions issued from time to time by this Department about steps to be taken during procurement, storage and distribution of foodgrains may be followed scrupulously to avoid damage to foodgrains. The quality control mechanism to be followed at the time of procurement, storage, distribution and code of practices to store the foodgrains in covered godowns and Cover and Plinth (CAP) storage is enclosed (Annex-I and II).

3. In view of this, I would request you that all efforts should be made by the field functionaries, engaged in procurement, preservation and maintenance of foodgrains to strictly follow these code of practices so as to maintain quality and prevent any damage. The delinquent staff responsible for negligence and damage to foodgrains may be identified and strict action may be taken against them.

Encl. As above

With best wishes.

Yours sincerely,

  
(Ajai Saxena) 28/03/13

Shri Harpreet Singh,  
Commissioner,  
Consumer Affairs Food & Civil Supplies Deptt.  
Govt. of Andhra Pradesh, Civil Supplies Bhawan,  
Eramanzil Colony, Somajiguda, Hyderabad.- 500082

## **MECHANISM OF QUALITY CONTROL OF FOODGRAINS DURING PROCUREMENT, STORAGE AND DISTRIBUTION**

There are well defined quality control norms specified by the Government for procurement of good quality foodgrains for distribution under TPDS.

Prior to commencement of Rabi and Kharif Procurement Seasons, Department of Food & Public Distribution formulates uniform specifications for procurement of good quality foodgrains for Central Pool. These uniform specifications are circulated to FCI, all State Governments and their agencies with the instructions to ensure that foodgrains strictly conforming to these uniform specifications should be procured by them.

Facilities for cleaning and drying of foodgrains are to be provided at procurement centres by State Governments so that good quality foodgrains well within the uniform specifications are procured by FCI and State agencies. Moisture meter, physical analysis kits, etc. are also to be provided at the procurement centres. There are instructions that proper stitching and stenciling on grain bags should be carried out. Dunnage material, tarpaulin and other materials for safe storage of procured food stocks are also to be provided. The Quality Control officers of FCI and State Governments have to regularly monitor the quality of foodgrains at the time of procurement.

Procured foodgrains are to be stored in covered godowns as well as under CAP (Covered & Plinth) storage (wheat and paddy only) for varying periods. During storage, scientific code of practices for safe storage of foodgrains are to be adopted by FCI and State agencies. Regular prophylactic and curative treatments are to be carried out for the control of insect pests. Proper aeration, cleaning and brushing (of foodgrains bags) need to be done regularly.

Quality Control officers of FCI and State agencies have to regularly monitor the quality of foodgrains including category of foodgrains and insect infestation, if any, and suggest immediate remedial measures. These inspections and remedial measures are to be displayed on the stack card of each stack in the godown. If during inspection/supervision damage to foodgrains stocks is noticed, it should be investigated thoroughly and immediate deterrent/strict action should be taken against the delinquents.

Similarly, at the time of distribution of foodgrains to States/UTs, there is a well defined procedure of joint inspection/sampling of the stocks by State Government authority and FCI to ensure that only good quality foodgrains conforming to PFA Standards are issued under Targetted Public Distribution System (PDS) and other

welfare schemes. This department has issued following instructions to Food Secretaries of all State Governments/Union Territory Administrations and FCI to ensure supply of good quality foodgrains under the TPDS:

- (i) Only good quality foodgrains free from insect infestation and conforming to PFA Standards are to be issued under TPDS.
- (ii) Ample opportunities are to be provided to the State Government to check the quality of foodgrains prior lifting the foodgrains stocks from FCI godowns.
- (iii) Samples of foodgrains are to be collected and sealed from the stocks of foodgrains to be issued under the TPDS jointly by FCI and State Food & Civil Supplies Department.
- (iv) An officer not below the rank of Inspector is to be deputed from State Government to take the delivery of foodgrains stocks from FCI godowns.
- (v) Regular inspection to check the quality of foodgrains is to be carried out by the officers of State Government and surprise checks are carried out by the officers of Quality Control Cell of the Ministry.
- (vi) It is the responsibility of the concerned State Government/ UT Administration to ensure that during transportation and storage at different stages in the distribution chain, the foodgrains retain the required quality specifications.
- (vii) The State Government, where the decentralized procurement is in operation, should ensure that the quality of foodgrains issued under TPDS and other welfare schemes should meet the desired standards under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act.

Wherever incidence of distribution of poor quality of foodgrains to consumers are brought to the notice, immediate action has to be taken against the officials found responsible.

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## CODE OF PRACTICES FOR COVERED STORAGE AND COVER & PLINTH(CAP) STORAGE OF FOODGRAINS

During storage, the following steps are to be taken for safe storage and preservations of foodgrains:-

### A) COVERED GODOWNS:-

- i) Godowns are constructed on scientific lines make in them rodent proof by having proper height and damp proof by providing pucca floor plinth
- ii) Before the stocks are stored, the godowns is to be properly clean and cobwebs etc. if any are removed.
- iii) Stacks lines are to be provided in each godowns for proper stacking of the stocks.
- iv) Adequate dunnage materials, such as, wooden crates, bamboo mats, polythene sheets are used in covered and CAP storage to check the migration of moisture from the floor.
- v) A floors and walls of the godowns are to be treated with chemicals to check the insect infestation.
- vi) Prophylactic (spraying of insecticides) and curative treatments (fumigation) are carried out regularly and timely in FCI godowns and CAP storage for the control of stored grain insect pests.
- vii) Effective rat control measures are to be undertaken.
- viii) Regular periodic inspections of the stocks/godowns are undertaken by qualified and trained staff of FCI including senior officers.
- ix) The principle of "First in First Out" (FIFO) is followed to the extent possible so as to avoid longer storage of foodgrains in godowns.

### B) COVER AND PLINTH (CAP) STORAGE .

Large quantity of foodgrains is stored by the FCI and State agencies in the open space due to the shortage of covered storage facilities. In foodgrains surplus states like Punjab and Haryana as well as in other States like U.P., Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Chhattisgarh and Gujarat, substantial quantity of wheat is stored under Cover and Plinth (CAP), an open storage system. There is a code of practice for the scientific storage of foodgrains to be stored under CAP. As there are adverse weather conditions, particularly, during monsoon period, there is a need to take all precautions to store the foodgrains safely under CAP storage.

Proper storage of foodgrains in CAP storage, proper use of polythene covers and timely use of prophylactic and curative measures for the control of stored grain insect pests and rats is helpful in minimizing the damage to foodgrains stored under CAP. The brief code of practice for scientific storage of foodgrains under CAP is as follows:

1. Site (s) selected for 'CAP' storage must be of high plinth preferably with pucca masonry work.
2. These sites should have proper drainage system and free from cracks & crevices, free from sinking floor, unwanted wild vegetation and with good approach roads as also provision for security etc.
3. High tension electric wires should not pass over the sites.
4. Adequate quantity of crates/stone slabs/wooden poles may be used so as to raise the height of the lowest layer of bags of the stacks.
5. Stack planning must be done in such a manner so that alleyways (3 feet) gangways (5 feet) are clearly left.
6. Stacks must be formed of standard size and height in a regular dome shape so as to avoid ballooning of the cover and avoid any accumulation of water on the stacks. The quantity of foodgrains to be stored in each stack should not be more than 150 MTs.
7. Regular prophylactic and curative measures should be carried out for the control of stored grain insect pests in CAP storage. Besides, rat control measures must be taken regularly by fumigating the rat burrows with aluminum phosphide or by poisoning the rodents with Zinc Phosphide.
8. During monsoon period, the stacks should be properly covered with good quality polythene covers along with nylon net and these should be tightened with plastic ropes to avoid ballooning due to cyclone/fast winds.
9. Birds (Parrot, Sparrow, Pigeon, Crow and Maina, etc. the major avian pests for foodgrains stored in CAPs) are to be controlled more vigorously as compared to the godown by using bird scarer, making noise, destroying nests etc. They not only eat away the grains but cause extensive spillage, damage to the bags and polythene covers, thus, rendering them unfit for fumigation.
10. Moisture, a major factor responsible for affecting the quality of foodgrains, must be controlled meticulously. CAP storage being in open, moisture in stocks from the outside may come in by way of leakages/seepage. This causes conditions favorable for insect infestation fungus development, heating and deterioration of food grains.
11. Whenever heating of the grain is observed, the stacks should be broken and aerated.
12. The staff must have the first aid kit and knowledge for meeting the odd circumstances such as snake/scorpion bite, injury due to collapsing stacks etc.
13. During monsoon season, on clear sunny days the stacks must be aerated to bring down the moisture content, as far as possible, to the optimum level.

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