

**Directives to Commercial Banks Regarding Direct Lending to Agriculture and weaker sections.**

3574. SHRI P. M. SAYEED:

SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Reserve Bank of India has directed to all Commercial banks to ensure that at least half of the direct lending to agriculture and allied activities goes to weaker sections;

(b) if so, what are the details of the directions issued;

(c) whether any definition has been made clear about the poor farmers; and

(d) if so, how much limit has been put and to what extent the loans will be sanctioned?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN): (a) and (b). In October, 1980, the Commercial Banks have been advised by the RBI that, by 1983, at least 50 per cent of their total direct advances to agriculture including allied activities must be for the weaker sections.

(c) and (d). Weaker sections in the field of agriculture have been defined as small and marginal farmers with land holding of 5 acres and less and landless labourers. For allied activities persons whose borrowal limits for such activities do not exceed Rs. 10,000 have been defined as the weaker sections. The quantum of loan would be dependent upon the viability of the purpose for which the loan is sought. Apart from the usual norms followed for purposes of lending, no limit has been imposed for the purposes of loaning to the weaker sections.

**प्रगति मैदान में "सन आफ" इंडिया प्रदर्शनी**

3575. श्री जशफाक हुसैन: क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) दिल्ली में प्रगति मैदान में 'सन आफ इंडिया' प्रदर्शनी आयोजित करने का उद्देश्य क्या है;

(ख) सरकार द्वारा उस पर कुल कितना व्यय किया गया? और

(ग) यह प्रदर्शनी हथकरघा खादी हस्त-कला से किस तरह सम्बद्ध है?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री खुरशीद आलम खां) (क) से (ग) 'सन आफ इंडिया' प्रदर्शनी का आयोजन स्वर्गीय श्री संजय गांधी के सम्मान में 'सन आफ इंडिया समिति द्वारा किया गया है। प्रदर्शनी का व्यय समिति द्वारा वहन किया जाएगा। तथापि अस्थायी रूप में उपलब्ध कराये गये स्थान के रख-रखाव का रोजमरों का खर्च भारतीय व्यापार मेला प्राधिकरण द्वारा किया जाएगा। परन्तु पानी व बिजली का खर्च प्राधिकरण द्वारा आयोजक से बसूल किया जाएगा। हालांकि यह प्रदर्शनी राष्ट्रीय हथकरघा तथा खादी मेला तथा राष्ट्रीय हस्तशिल्प मेला के साथ ही आयोजित की गई परन्तु यह इन मेलों का भाग नहीं थी।

**Export of Foodgrains**

3576. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of foodgrains of each variety already exported or decided to be exported during the current year;

(b) why foodgrains are being allowed to be exported;

(c) what is the buffer stock of foodgrains as at the end of December, 1978 and October, 1980; and

(d) names and particulars of agencies who have been given licences for exporting foodgrains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KHAN): (a) About 3 to 4 lakh tonnes of non-basmati rice is likely to be exported on commercial account. This would be in addition to the rice which may be exported on Government to Government basis. Export of basmati rice is on OGL. Export of barley is allowed within a limit ceiling.

(b) Export of foodgrains is allowed taking into account various relevant factors like the total stock position with public agencies, requirements of the public distribution system buffer stock Food for Work and other schemes etc. Similarly export of barley is allowed only to the extent considered feasible by Ministry of Agriculture after taking into account our production and internal demand.

(c) The total stocks of foodgrains with all public agencies at the end of December, 1978 and end of October, 1980 were 17.2 million tonnes and 11.9 million tonnes respectively.

(d) The export of non-basmati rice will be allowed by the following agencies:—

- (i) Food Corporation of India.
- (ii) NAFED
- (iii) S.T.C.
- (iv) Andhra Pradesh S.T.C.
- (v) Haryana Co-operative Marketing Fed.
- (vi) Punjab Civil Supplies Corporation.
- (vii) Tamil Nadu (Civil Supplies Corporation.
- (viii) M. P. Export Corporation, M.P.
- (ix) Mysore Sales International, Karnataka.

(x) The U.P. Export Corporation Ltd.

(xi) National Consumers' Cooperative Federation Ltd.

Export of barley is allowed both through STC and NAFED.

#### Export of Essential Commodities during 1980-81

3577. SHRI RAJESH KUMAR SINGH:

SHRI HIRALAL R. PARMAR:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to export sugar, onions, cement, potatoes and other essential commodities during the current financial year; and

(b) if so, the names of the importing countries and the quantity of these essential items proposed to be exported separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KHAN): (a) and (b). Export of Onions is canalised through National Agricultural Co-operative Marketing Federation and allowed within a limited ceiling. Export of Potatoes is allowed under Open General Licence. Export of Cement is not permitted since mid 1977 except for small quantities to Nepal and Bhutan or to fulfil unavoidable past commitments. Between Jan. to March, 1981 1,25,000 tonnes of sugar is proposed to be exported to meet our commitments.

The quantity and value of export of these items as also the names of importing countries are published in the publication entitled "Monthly Statistics of the Foreign Trade of India—Vol. I—Export and Re-exports". A copy of the said publication is available in the Library of the Parliament House.