

Restriction on Movement of Foodgrains

3053. SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN:
DR. ULHAS VASUDEO PATIL:
SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN:

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

(a) whether a general policy decision was taken to lift the restriction on the Inter-State movement of essential commodities;

(b) if so, whether Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh are not implementing the same and prohibit the movement of essential commodities to Kerala;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to implement the above general policy and to ensure the free movement of essential commodities in States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYAPAL SINGH YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) In Andhra Pradesh paddy can be moved outside the State with a permit issued by the State Government. The State wants to continue with this system to maximise rice procurement for operating the PDS and also to ensure availability of rice in the open market at affordable prices.

In Tamil Nadu, every licensed dealer miller has to pay to the Government a quantity equal to the total quantity of rice or paddy intended to be transported towards levy at the procurement price. This levy is applicable only to stocks moved from Tamil Nadu to other States and not vice-versa. Since the State is marginally deficit in foodgrains, the State Government wants to continue with this export levy. In spite of consistent persuasion, both the State Governments want to continue with the above restrictions on paddy/rice on account of local conditions as explained above.

[Translation]

Scheme for Development of Slums

3054. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS & EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the funds allocated for implementation of environmental improvement of slums during last years till date in the country, State-wise; and

(b) the details of the arrangements made for monitoring the expenditure being incurred on the development of slums and poverty alleviation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) Slum is a State subject and the State Governments formulate specific plans & programmes for development of slums in various towns & cities as per their priority. However, with a view to ameliorating the living conditions of slum dwellers a Centrally sponsored scheme viz. Environmental Improvement of Urban Slums (EIUS) was launched during Fifth Five Year Plan, which was subsequently transferred to State sector in 1974 and since then is being implemented by the State Governments under the Minimum Needs Programme. The Government of India launched a National Slum Development Programme (NSDP) in 1996 to provide Additional Central Assistance to States/UTs for the development of urban slums. State-wise allocation of funds under EIUs since Vth Plan upto 1995-96 and under NSDP since inception of the scheme upto 1998-99 are given in Statements-I and II.

(b) Under NSDP funds are being allocated by the Planning Commission and releases are being made by Ministry of Finance. Ministry of Urban Affairs & Employment has been nominated as the nodal Ministry to monitor the programme. Being a nodal Ministry, this Ministry has prepared MIS proforma to monitor the physical as well as financial progress of NSDP and circulated to all States/UTs to report the progress made under NSDP to this Ministry on quarterly basis.