

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3232
ANSWERED ON:22.03.2002
EXPORT OF FOODGRAINS
GOWDAR MALLIKARJUNAPPA;IQBAL AHMED SARADGI

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

- (a) whether exporters of foodgrains have requested the Union Government to fix prices of foodgrains on quarterly basis;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Union Government have agreed to the suggestion of exporters;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the other suggestions made by exporters to the Union Government to enable easier exports;
- (f) whether the Union Government propose to amend the rules to provide an additional month's time for lifting of foodgrains for export;
- (g) if so, the details thereof; and
- (h) the time by which huge foodgrain stocks are likely to be liquidated and the present stock of foodgrains in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI PRADHAN)

(a),(b),(c)&(d): In order to offer a stable price regime, the Government has decided to fix the offer price for export of wheat and rice from the Central Pool for a period of 3 months with an additional month given for lifting of stocks and to announce the prices 45 days in advance before the commencement of the concerned quarter.

(e): The exporters also suggested inter alia that the minimum consignment size of rice be reduced from 5000 MTs to 2000 MTs, and a Standing Committee be set up to deal with the problem of exporters expeditiously.

(f)&(g): There is no such proposal at present.

(h): The Government is taking various measures to increase offtake and dispose of the excess stock beyond the minimum buffer stock norms.