

(b) The comparative yields of cereals (with paddy) and pulses are as follows :

	(Kgs/hectare)	
	India 1994-95	World 1994
Cereals	2168	2830
Pulses	609	847

(c) The reasons for lower yields of cereals and pulses observed in the country in comparison to world level are attributed to differences in soil types/fertility, application of various inputs, cultivation practices, technological advances, agro-climatic conditions etc.

(d) To increase the production and productivity of foodgrains, the Government is implementing various crop production programmes, besides providing price and market support.

STATEMENT

*Per Hectare Yield of Cereals and Pulses - State-wise
for 1994-95*

State	Cereals*	Pulses
Andhra Pradesh	2169	402
Assam	1340	546
Bihar	1561	833
Gujarat	1432	575
Haryana	2947	1064
Himachal Pradesh	1477	@
Jammu & Kashmir	1680	@
Karnataka	1398	382
Kerala	1898	1435
Madhya Pradesh	1224	714
Maharashtra	989	472
Orissa	1392	576
Punjab	3734	878
Rajasthan	1046	546
Tamil Nadu	2625	399
Uttar Pradesh	2094	858
West Bengal	2168	630
All India	1763	609

@ Crop being unimportant, yield per hectares has not been calculated.

Include yield of rice, wheat and coarse cereals.

[Translation]

Decanalisation of Sugar Export

715. SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH :
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :
SHRI KACHARU BHAI RAUT :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government's decision to decanalise sugar exports is likely to benefit the industry as well as the trade;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the quantum of increase in the export of sugar as a result thereof;

(d) whether some of the sugar mills have opposed this move;

(e) if so, whether they have submitted memoranda to the Government in this regard; and

(f) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto.

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) and (b). It has been decided to decanalise sugar export. India has become a major sugar exporter in 1995-96 season and to promote export, it is necessary to decanalise sugar export.

(c) It is not possible to quantify the increase in sugar exports as a host of factors including fluctuations in international sugar prices determine export decisions.

(d) and (e). The Indian Sugar Mills Association, apex body of the Sugar Industry, has petitioned the Government vide letter dated 19.9.1996 to reconsider its decision to decanalise export as, in their view, the objectives visualised by the Government are not likely to be achieved as long as the dual pricing policy of sugar continues.

(f) The sugar policy of partial control with a dual pricing mechanism is to continue for the present.

[English]

Sale of Foodgrains in Open Market

716. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :
SHRI D.P. YADAV :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state

(a) whether Government have revised guidelines for the sale of wheat, rice and other foodgrains in the open market;

(b) if so, the details of revised guidelines;

(c) the basic intention of the revision of guidelines;

(d) whether the State Civil Supply Corporations are likely to be involved in the sale of these foodgrains in the open market; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) to (c). The Govt. sell only wheat and rice through FCI in the open market. With a view to ensuring fair and equitable open sale of wheat, revised guidelines on open sale of wheat were issued and made effective from 1.9.96. They include selection of purchasers by a Three-Member Committee consisting of (a) SRM, FCI of the Region (b) Director, Food and Civil Supplies or his representative and (c) Joint Manager (Accounts), on proper identification of the intending purchasers. A copy of the revised guidelines is annexed. A few changes were effected by FCI on operational grounds during the last festival season.

(d) and (e). State Civil Supplies Corporation are given preference in purchase of wheat and rice under open market sale scheme as may be seen at Para (iv) of guidelines on the Statement enclosed.

STATEMENT

Guidelines on Sale of Wheat (Effective From 1.9.1996)

Monthly Ceiling to be released by Govt.	(i) The existing stipulation that "Open sale in a State in a month shall not exceed the average of last four months' sale in the State; and that any sale beyond this limit in a State shall be specifically authorised by MD, FCI" stands withdrawn. Month-wise ceiling for sale of wheat is being made by the Department of Food Procurement & Distribution and this should continue.
MD, FCI, to earmark State-wise allocations	(ii) Open sale shall be conducted after keeping aside PDS requirements and other Government welfare schemes. MD, FCI, will communicate Statewise ceilings after considering the availability of stocks.
Limits on sale per month per purchaser	(iii) A ceiling of 100 MT (one hundred MT) and 200 MT (two hundred MT) foodgrains per buyer per month may be fixed instead of existing upper ceiling of 200 MT and 1000

MT for open sale from FCI godowns with capacity of 5,000 MT and more than 5,000 MT respectively per buyer per week. However, there shall be no quantitative restriction in the State of Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan for wheat kept in CAP storage; but the monthly ceiling fixed by the Government shall not be crossed.

Identification of purchaser to avoid fictitious sales

(iv) Intending buyer shall submit some form of identification such as Sales Tax, income tax, shopping and Establishment Act, Registration Certificate, to establish his genuineness to minimise sale in fake names. Preference in sale to State Civil Supplies Corporations will be accorded.

Diversion to export to be stopped

(v) SRMs shall be advised to ensure that no quantity of wheat sold under OMSS is diverted to export.

Cap Storage included in sale centre to expedite disposal of Wheat kept in open storage

(vi) On the recommendation of HLC of FCI, the open sales have been restricted to 173 districts headquarters godowns only. However, on the request of MD, FCI, the following relaxations have been agreed to by the Ministry :-

(a) Open sale of wheat can also take place from CAP storage.

(b) In case there is no FCI godown in the FCI District Headquarters, the Zonal Manager can identify another godown within the concerned FCI district on the basis of its location by the side of railway station/highway. But, such a godown will not be in addition to the main depot (if any) location at FCI district headquarters.

Allottees and quantities to be decided by a Committee

(vii) A committee consisting of (a) SRM, FCI, of the region (b) Director, Food & Civil Supplies or his representative and (c) Joint Manager

(Accounts) will be formed to decide the names of purchasers alongwith quantity of wheat to be given to applicant(s) /intending buyer(s). For this purpose application will be received by the DM, FCI, from the intending buyers by 7th of each month alongwith 10% Earnest Money for the quantity indented. Concerned DM will ensure that the applications of the intending buyers are entered in a register kept in his office. These applications will be sent to SRM, FCI, for consideration of the Committee will be sent to District Manager, FCI, by 15th of the month, who will finally issue Release Orders to the purchasers by 15th of every month. The purchasers will have to deposit the full amounts (after adjusting END) as per the price in force on the date of delivery.

Transparency by displaying the names of purchasers on notice boards

(viii) A notice board should be prominently displayed in the office of DM, FCI, indicating clearly the tentative quantity available for sale, total stocks available and rates of open sale, alongwith a list of allottees. List of allottees should also be displayed prominently in the office of concerned SRM, FCI, and Director Food & Supplies.

(ix) In order to reduce difficulties and harassment, the purchasers should be advised to lift the stock from the nearest depot where stock of wheat is available

First in-
First Out

(x) FCI should strictly enforce the policy of First in - First Out of foodgrains stocks in Food Corporation of India Godowns/Storage.

as reported in the 'Asian Age', dated October 7, 1996; and

(b) if so, the action taken to check de-notification of the National Parks and Sanctuaries endangering animals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) Some instances of illegal mining and industrial activities in protected areas have come to notice. Proposals for such projects submitted in some cases have been rejected and in others permission earlier given has been revoked.

(b) The State Governments are empowered under Section 26-A(3) of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 to alter the boundaries of national parks and sanctuaries only after a resolution to this effect is passed by the Legislature of the State concerned

Assault on Journalists

718. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA :
SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :
KUMARI UMA BHARATI :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether some journalists were physically assaulted and abused by the BSP leaders recently in Delhi;

(b) if so, whether any inquiry has been made by the Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof the reaction of journalists in this regard; and

(d) the action taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (d) Delhi police have registered two criminal cases at Police Station Tughlak Road, New Delhi, one on the basis of complaint lodged by a media person and the other by in-charge Security of Ms. Mayawati, in connection with the incident reports to have taken place at the residence of Shri Kanshi Ram, Member of Parliament, on the 25th October, 1996.

Press Council of India had constituted a special fact finding Inquiry Committee to look into the incident of 25th October, 1996, but the Council subsequently decided not to proceed with the inquiry in view of the objections raised by the media persons.

De-Notification of National Parks

717. SHRI T. GOPAL KRISHNA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether illegal mining and industrial activities are being carried out in the protected forest areas

Training Centres in Gujarat

719. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have launched a scheme