

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3602
ANSWERED ON:23.08.2004
FOODGRAIN EXPORT BY PRIVATE TRADERS
Deora Shri Milind Murl

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to export foodgrains through private traders instead of Government agencies such as STC;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government also proposes to give subsidy of Rs. 1 per kg as a reimbursement of freight and export handling charges;
- (d) if so, the quantum of financial burden on the exchequer;
- (e) whether FCI proposes to sell wheat and rice to private traders over and above the buffer stock; and
- (f) if so, the loss to be sustained as a result thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH)

(a), (b), (c) & (d): A new foodgrain export policy is at an advanced stage of consideration of the Government.

(e) & (f): The present policy permits Food Corporation of India to sell wheat and rice to private traders subject to the buffer stock being over 243 lakh tonnes at any given point of time. However, because of reduction in surplus stock in recent times, fresh allocation for exports has been stopped with effect from 11.8.2003 and therefore the release of subsidy on this account does not arise, at present.