

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:286
ANSWERED ON:19.11.2007
BAN ON RICE EXPORT
Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram

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

- (a) whether the Government has recently imposed ban on the export of rice;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has made any assessment regarding the impact of the ban particularly on procurement of paddy from the farmers in the country;
- (d) if so, the outcome thereof; and
- (e) the number of paddy procurement centres in the country alongwith the facilities provided to farmers at these centres to ensure proper procurement during the current season?

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): In order to increase procurement of rice for the Central Pool, the Government has imposed a ban on export of rice with Minimum Export Price (MEP) of US Dollars 425 per tonne FoB.
- (c) & (d): The ban is expected to result in an increase in procurement of rice for the Central Pool. However, since the Kharif Marketing Season 2007-08 has commenced recently and will extend upto 30.9.2008, it is too early to make an accurate assessment of the impact of the ban.
- (e): During KMS 2006-07, 11552 purchase centers were operated for paddy procurement. This year 8448 procurement centers have already been opened. Government of India has asked the FCI and State Governments to ensure availability of proper infrastructure for farmers at all purchase centers.