

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:714  
ANSWERED ON:02.03.2010  
REGULATORY HURDLES UNDER ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES ACT  
Gandhi Shri Feroze Varun

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

- (a) whether there has been an increase in the logistics cost of small-scale players who suffer due to regulatory hurdles experienced under the prevailing Essential Commodities Act;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to remove the regulatory hurdles, affecting transportation of a range of specified products across the respective State borders;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken in this regard; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K. V, THOMAS)

(a) to (e): The only regulatory hurdle that has specifically come to notice relates to the restrictions of movement of paddy and rice in Karnataka. Certain Writ Petitions No. 17723-732 of 2008, Writ Petition No. 17873-881 of 2008 and Writ Petition No. 17904-912 of 2008 had been filed by traders in foodgrains and carrying on business in rice and paddy before the High Court of Karnataka praying to declare by issuing a writ or order that there is no movement restrictions of rice and paddy for transporting it from one place to another within the State and also outside the State.

The Hon`ble High Court of Karnataka in its Order dated 17-03-2009 disposed of the petition declaring that there is no restriction for movement of paddy/rice from one place to another, both within and outside the State. The Hon`ble High Court also found that these restrictions are not in accordance with the instructions of Government of India. Accordingly no further action is required to be taken by Government of India.