

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1

ANSWERED ON:09.11.2010

BAN ON FOODGRAINS EXPORT

Ponnam Shri Prabhakar;Shetkar Shri Suresh Kumar;Swamygowda Shri N Cheluvaraya Swamy

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

- (a) whether the Government has banned the export of wheat, rice, pulses and sugar in view of its shortage and for implementation of the proposed Food Security law and has ruled out the lifting of the said ban;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether suggestions/recommendations have been received from the experts/ States in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

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

(a) Yes Madam, The Government has banned export of wheat & non-basmati rice with effect from 9.2.2007 and 1.4.2008 respectively. This is to stabilize prices of wheat and non-basmati rice in domestic market and to maintain sufficient stocks for ensuring food security in the country. However export of certain quantities of wheat and rice are being allowed for humanitarian aid to some countries. The export of pulses (except Kabuli Chana) is banned till 31.3.2011. But there is no ban on export of sugar, though, the exports are regulated.

(c) & (d): Yes, Madam. Requests were received from the State Governments of Punjab, Andhra Pradesh & Chhattisgarh for export of non-basmati rice. Besides, requests were also received from Rice Millers/Exporters Association of Punjab & Kerala. These requests were considered but not acceded to.