

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5080  
ANSWERED ON:08.05.2012  
EXPORT OF NON-BASMATI RICE  
Rajesh Shri M. B.

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

- (a) whether the Government has allowed the export of non-basmati rice;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has assessed the impact of export on price of rice and consequent food inflation in the country;
- (d) if so, the details and the outcome thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to increase procurement of paddy and other foodgrains?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. The Government, after taking into consideration the record production, procurement and comfortable stock position of rice in the Central Pool as well as in the country, has allowed export of non-basmati rice on private account under Open General Licence (OGL) w.e.f 09-09-2011. A total of 41.80 lakh tons of Non-basmati rice has been exported from the country as on 24-4-2012. The Government is closely monitoring the trend of exports.

(c) & (d): The prices of non-basmati rice have been stable for over a year. The continued export of non-basmati rice is not likely to have an adverse impact on domestic prices. The wholesale price index for rice for March, 2012 is 174.9 as compared to 173.3 in September, 2011.

(e): The following steps have been taken by the Government to improve the procurement by Government Agencies:-

(i) States are encouraged to adopt Decentralised Procurement (DCP) system to maximize procurement and to ensure better reach of MSP to farmers. So far 5 States have adopted DCP system for wheat and 9 States/UTs have adopted DCP system for rice.

(ii) Interactions are held with State Food Secretaries from time to time to monitor procurement operations and to speed up the procurement process.

(iii) Instructions have been issued to open procurement centres at the locations convenient to farmers.

(iv) In order to extend the reach of Minimum Support Price (MSP) operations to marginal/small farmers, commission at the rate 2.5 % of MSP in respect of paddy and 2% of MSP in respect of wheat has been allowed to Cooperative Societies/Self Help Groups.