

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:696
ANSWERED ON:14.08.2012
EXPORT OF FOODGRAINS BY STATES
Badal Harsimrat Kaur

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

- (a) whether the Government has allowed certain States to export rice and wheat;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the State of Punjab is facing a peculiar situation of holding huge stock of foodgrains, most of which are lying in the open and fast decaying;
- (d) if so, whether the Government proposes to allow free export of rice and wheat out of Punjab; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

(a): No, Madam.

(b): Does not arise.

(c): As on 01.07.2012, 132.68 lakh MT wheat stocks are lying in Covered And Plinth (CAP) complexes of FCI and State Agencies of Punjab Regions. An action plan on evacuation of stocks lying in Katcha complexes in various Regions including Punjab Region has been made by FCI to evacuate or shift these stocks to safe places.

(d) & (e): The Government vide DGFT notifications No. 71 (RE-2010)/2009-2014 and No. 72 (RE-2010)/2009-2014 dated 9th September, 2011 has allowed export of non-basmati rice & wheat under Open General Licence (OGL). While reviewing the status of exports under OGL, the EGoM in its meeting held on 19.6.2012 has approved continued unrestricted export of non-basmati rice and wheat under OGL. Besides above, the Government vide the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) decision dated 3.7.2012 has allowed export of 2 million tons of wheat from Central Pool stocks through Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs) of the Department of Commerce on commercial terms. The quantities shall be issued for export out of surplus wheat stocks stored in Punjab, Haryana & Madhya Pradesh.