

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1209
ANSWERED ON:13.08.2013
EXPORT OF 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 the said exports on prices 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 in the country?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. The Government has permitted the export of non-basmati rice from private stocks w.e.f. 9-9-2011 in view of the sufficient availability of non-basmati rice in domestic market. The data on export of rice from private stocks alone; as no export of rice from Central Pool Stocks is done for the last three years, is as under:

| (Quantity in tons) | | | | |
|--------------------------------|---------|---------|----------|--|
| Quality | 2010-11 | 2011-12 | 2012-13 | |
| Rice in Husk of Seed Quality | 9357 | 9218 | 12289 | |
| Other Rice in Husk | 2503 | 82506 | 259814 | |
| Husked Rice (Brown) | 496 | 16849 | 99803 | |
| Parboiled Rice | 50371 | 2778333 | 4041746 | |
| Basmati Rice | 2370658 | 3178174 | 3456411 | |
| Non-Parboiled Non-Basmati Rice | 37649 | 692459 | 1393180 | |
| Broken Rice | 308 | 418392 | 867861 | |
| Total | 2471342 | 7175931 | 10131104 | |

(c) & (d): Government has constituted an Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) comprising of Secretaries of Department of Commerce, Department of Agriculture & Cooperation, Department of Food & Public Distribution and Department of Consumer Affairs with a mandate to monitor the export of wheat and non-basmati rice. While monitoring, IMC considers many aspects including availability of rice in Central Pool stocks keeping in view buffer stocks and strategic reserve, international demand and supply situation and price competitiveness to keep a balance between remunerative prices to the growers and availability of foodgrains in the domestic market at affordable prices. There has been no major impact of export of non-basmati rice on domestic prices of rice.

(e): To give proper remunerative price to the growers the Government fixes the Minimum Support Price (MSP) of wheat and paddy every year and MSP of Paddy-A was increased to Rs.1345 from 1280 and Paddy-C (Common Variety) to Rs.1310 from 1250 per quintal while for wheat MSP was increased to Rs.1350 from Rs.1285 this year.

The Government also announced the MSP well ahead of the start of Crop Year. Wide publicity is given about MSP through pamphlets, banners, signboards, advertisements and through electronic media. The Government has extended price support to paddy through FCI and State Agencies. Besides regular mandies, temporary procurement centers are also opened. The purchase centers are kept operational upto the last date of the procurement season in consultation with the State Governments. In order to ensure MSP to farmers, payment only through cheques/electronic mode is enforced.