

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:62

ANSWERED ON:24.02.2015

FOODGRAIN MOVEMENT THROUGH WATERWAYS

Galla Shri Jayadev

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

(a) whether foodgrains were moved between Andhra Pradesh and other States through waterways on pilot basis and if so, the details thereof and the steps taken for more extensive use of water ways for the purpose;

(b) whether his Ministry has undertaken any consultations with the Ministry of Shipping for use of other inland waterways including Kakinada-Puducherry for movement of foodgrains; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB PATIL DANVE)

(a): Yes Madam, 10,000 MT foodgrains have been moved on a pilot basis through multimodal route (sea, River and Road) from depots of Andhra Pradesh to Agartala (Tripura) via Ashuganj (Bangladesh). Also, transportation of foodgrains from designated depots of Andhra Pradesh to designated depots of Kerala via Coastal route is underway and 1,04,542 MT (approx) foodgrains have been moved ex-Andhra Pradesh to Kerala so far. Government is already using waterways to the maximum extent possible depending up on cost consideration.

(b) & (c): Ministry has also explored the possibility of moved foodgrains to Karimganj from Kalkata using riverine route. However, it was not found to be feasible due to cost considerations. There is no proposal to use Kakinada – Puducherry coastal route at present.