

want to know whether Government propose to set up some special force to check smuggling through the riverine area ?

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : No, not a special force, we are increasing the man-power.

SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY : I want to know whether Gopalganj.....

MR. SPEAKER : Send him there.

SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI : The hon. Minister has said that the morale of the custom officers is very high. He has rightly said that their morale is high. You go to Champaran in Bihar and make purchases from any of the shops there. You need not bring those goods with you, the custom officials will do it for you and your goods will reach wherever you want.

MR. SPEAKER : Then there is no question of the morale going down.

SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI : That is why I want to know—I had asked a supplementary in the last session also—that in view of the fact that the custom officials have to check an area of more than 1000 kms., will the Government arrange to plug the river route by deploying motor launches and whether Government propose to set up a special force for this purpose ? Will some action be taken against such officials who connive in smuggling, as pointed out by me above.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : I do not agree that there are such officials. There are also officers who do very good work. Whenever we have received any information that some officer has indulged in such activities, we have taken action and would continue to do so in future as well. So far as question of launches is concerned, I have noted down this suggestion.

[English]

Import and Export of Rice

*293. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of rice imported during 1983-84 and 1984-85 and likely to be imported during 1985-86 to meet the demand in the country;

(b) the agency through which it has been imported and from which countries and at what rate;

(c) the foreign exchange involved therein;

(d) whether it is a fact that rice is being exported; if so, the quantity exported during the said period indicating the names of the countries and rates thereof; and

(e) whether Government propose to review their export policy in regard to rice for the year 1986-87 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI A.K. PANJA) : (a) to (c). A statement indicating the required information is given below (Statement-I). There is no proposal to go in for import of rice at present.

(d) Yes, Sir. A statement indicating the information in regard to export of rice is laid on the Table of the Sabha (Statement-II).

(e) Policy for export of rice is reviewed from time to time.

Statement—I

Statement indicating details of imports of rice on Government account through Food Corporation of India. since 1983-84

Year	Source	Quantity contracted for purchase (in lakh tonnes)	Overall average FOB price per tonne (US \$)	Estimated FOB Value (Million US \$)
1983-84	Thailand	3.70	224.46	83.050
	Burma	3.50	194.00	67.900
1984-85	—	—	—	—
1985-86 (till date)	—	—	—	—

Statement—II

Statement showing Quantity and Value of Rice (Basmati) exported during 1983-84, 1984-85 and 1985-86 (April-December, 1985)

Year	Quantity (Tonnes)	Value (Rs. crores)
1983-84	141664	96.12
1984-85	241785	163.03
1985-86 (April-Dec. '85) (Provisional)	183667	132.64

The main markets for exports of Basmati rice are USSR and Gulf countries.

Export of non-basmati rice has been allowed with effect from 18-2-1986 within a limited ceiling subject to the minimum export price of Rs. 4,000/- par tonne F.O.B. during the year 1985-86.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Sir, while replying to Part 'e' of my question, the Hon. Minister has stated that "Policy of export of rice is reviewed from time to time." So, May I know from the hon. Minister, whether the Government has

reviewed its export policy on non-basmati rice recently? If so, when, and the conditions imposed on exporting those rice to foreign countries and the countries which are expecting non-basmati rice from us and what is the foreign exchange earning by it and how much of quantity of non-basmati rice will be exported in the current year-1986-87?

SHRI A.K. PANJA : Sir, the question in fact has three parts. So, far as the change of policy and the review of non-basmati rice is concerned, the change took place on 18th February, 1986 for export of non-basmati rice, within a limited ceiling on "the first come first served" basis, subject to minimum export price of Rs. 4,000 per tonne 'FOB' against 100 per cent confirmed irrevocable letter of credit.

So far as the export of non-basmati rice is concerned, we find major markets for non-basmati rice in USSR, Gulf countries and U.K.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : What about the foreign exchange earnings? That was my last part of the question.

SHRI A.K. PANJA : The actual foreign exchange earnings at this stage, we cannot say. It started on 18th February, 1986. I have quoted the price.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : What is the quantity to be imported ?

SHRI A.K. PANJA : The quantity to be exported is 5 lakh tonnes. But it depends on the availability also.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : So far as the first supplementary is concerned, he has already replied it. Now, I want to put my second supplementary. May I know whether it is a fact that this export of non-basmati rice may have some effect on the open market price of non-basmati rice ? And if so, what are the measures proposed to be taken by the Government to check such rise in prices of non-basmati rice in the open market ?

SHRI A.K. PANJA : Sir, there would be no effect on this because we are thinking of reviewing the policy of export on the basis of non-basmati rice available with us. After meeting the entire requirement for the public distribution system and also open market availability then the export policy is decided.

SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has quoted the USSR and the Gulf region as the major markets for Indian rice. Now, I have no information about the CIF price in the Soviet Union. But as far as the Gulf region is concerned, I have the information that the price received by our competitors is higher than the price that the hon. Minister has just quoted i.e. Rs. 4,000 'FOB' Bombay in fact FOB price is a bit deceptive. The real price that ought to be taken into consideration is the price of CIF Gulf port. I would like, therefore, to know from the hon. Minister, whether between the C.I.F. price of, say, Pakistani rice and the C.I.F. rice of Indian rice there is any differential.

SHRI A.K. PANJA : This is a point which has to be considered by us.

SYED SHAHABUDDIN : I am asking for facts.

SHRI A.K. PANJA : The hon. Member has stated that some other countries have made more money; but this is the minimum price fixed by us.

SYED SHAHABUDDIN : But how do you fix it ?

SHRI A.K. PANJA : If there is any other country doing so, if the hon. Member given us the information, we will enquire and let the House know.

SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Was the price fixed without considering the prices in the market ?

MR. SPEAKER : They do it according to their own statistics available....

SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Then it should have been the factual information about the market, price received by various suppliers.

MR. SPEAKER : How can they do it without consulting those things ?

SHRI A.K. PANJA : The minimum export price I have already stated; but the hon. Member is saying that our price is low. But immediately, right now I do not have the record about the difference. How the price was fixed I will lay on the Table of the House.

MR. SPEAKER : Question 294— Mr. Harihar Soren absent. Then Question No. 295 Mr. Sarfaraz Ahmad—not present. Now Question 296—Mr. Manphool Singh Chaudhary.

[*Translation*]

Net Gain from Income Tax Raids

*296. **SHRI MANPHOOL SINGH CHAUDHARY :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the value of unaccounted assets seized by the officers of the Income Tax Department during raids conducted in the months of November, 1985, December, 1985 and January, 1986;

(b) whether besides usual allowances admissible under the rules these officials have been given some reward in cash or kind on the basis of value of assets seized; if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the net gain from these raids after