

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government is also aware that lakhs of poor farmers have migrated to cities and are compelled to work as labourers in cities;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the details of the steps Government will take to bridge the gap between 'Shining India' and 'Whining India'?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) As per the Census data, total agricultural workers as a percentage of all workers has reduced from 67% in 1991 (excluding the State of Jammu and Kashmir) to 58.24% in 2001. This reduction in percentage terms, *inter-alia*, is on account of growth of secondary and tertiary sectors.

(c) and (d) As per 2001 census, 16.43% of total migration during all times was from rural to urban areas and the remaining migration took place due to other migration streams *viz.* rural to rural, urban to rural, urban to urban and unclassified. Although the Census data captures various migration streams and reasons for migration (*viz.* work/employment, business, education marriage, moved after birth and others), no separate data is available regarding migration of farmers to work as labourers in cities.

(e) The Government has taken a number of policy initiatives to give a boost to agriculture and allied sectors and to achieve inclusive growth. One of the major goals of the National Policy for Farmers (NPF), 2007 is to improve economic viability of farming by substantially increasing the net income of farmers. The NPF also envisages creation of rural non-farm employment opportunities. With a long-term objective to improve income of the farmers and to incentivize the States to invest more on agriculture and allied sectors, Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana has been launched by the Government of India. Other schemes such as the National Food Security Mission, the National Horticulture Mission, the Technology Mission on Integrated Development of Horticulture in North Eastern and Himalayan States, Integrated Nutrient and Pest Management, Macro Management of Agriculture and Support to Agriculture Extension also help in increasing farmers' income. In addition, initiatives like Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, Backward Region Grant Fund and Bharat Nirman are being implemented to strengthen the growth impulse in the rural economy and to generate additional employment opportunities in rural areas.

Export of sugar

*413. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to export 10,000 tonnes of white sugar to European Union when the country is facing scarcity and rising prices of sugar in the open market;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the context and circumstances under which the decision has been taken to allow such export of sugar?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (c) The Commission of the European Communities *vide* its Regulation dated 25th September, 2009 allocated a duty-free quota of 10,000 MTs of sugar to India for export to European Union (EU). The EU is a vast market with great potential for export of Indian agricultural products. Not discharging/availing this quota could result in reduction by the European Countries of import quota from India.

Keeping this in mind M/s Indian Sugar Exim Corporation (ISEC) was allowed to export 10,000 MTs of sugar to EU subject to the condition that it will import an equivalent quantity of sugar in 2009-10 sugar season. This condition was imposed to ensure that there was no net export of sugar from the country.

DGFT issued the necessary public notice on 15th February, 2010 allocating 10,000 MTs of white sugar for export to EU for the fiscal year 2009-10 (October, 2009 to September, 2010). Subsequently, the allocation was withdrawn *vide* DGFT's public notice dated 23rd February, 2010. Accordingly, no export of sugar has taken place.

Sugar quota for Odisha

*414. SHRI KISHORE KUMAR MOHANTY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Odisha has asked for special quota of sugar from the Union Government to bring down the spiralling prices of sugar in the open market; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Central Government has not received any specific request from the Government of Odisha for special quota of sugar from the Central Government in the recent past. However, during the conference of Chief Minister's held on 6th February, 2010, the Chief Minister of Odisha had requested, *inter-alia*, that allocation should also be made to the State for Above Poverty Line (APL) families at subsidised rates.

In February, 2001, the Central Government restructured supply of levy sugar for distribution under Public Distribution System (PDS) and restricted its supply to Below Poverty Line (BPL) families throughout the country except the North Eastern States, Hill States and Island territories where universal coverage was allowed. This was done with a view to better targeting of PDS beneficiaries.

Special Package for setting up colleges

*415. PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware that there is urgent need for providing colleges in certain areas in Kashmir; and