

(b) when the last such meeting of the respective Revisionary Authorities for the States of Chhattisgarh and Karnataka took place;

(c) whether Government would ensure that small entrepreneurs get a proper hearing at such meetings;

(d) whether it is mandatory that an aggrieved person must be represented by advocates; and

(e) if so, the steps taken to simplify the system for small entrepreneurs and aggrieved persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) Revisionary Authorities give dates for hearing of revision cases as and when they are ripe for hearing in terms of Rule 55 of Mineral Concession Rules (MCR), 1960.

(b) Last hearing of Revision Applications of States of Chhattisgarh and Karnataka took place as detailed below:

Chhattisgarh	—	01.08.2011
Karnataka	—	28.07.2011

(c) Hearings of Revision Applications are done as per provisions of Section 30 of Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act 1957 and Rule 54 and 55 of the Mineral Concession Rules, 1960. Right of hearing is given to any party availing the statutory remedy of Revision Application before Central Govt.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) In view of (d) above does not arise.

#### **Swaminathan Commission on storage requirement**

\* 119. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of additional storage/warehouse facilities needed for storage of foodgrains;

(b) whether the Swaminathan Commission had made any suggestions regarding storage requirement;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government is going to implement those recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Due to the increased procurement of foodgrains and to overcome the shortage of covered storage space for foodgrains, the

Government formulated a Scheme for construction of storage godowns through private entrepreneurs, Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) and State Warehousing Corporations (SWCs). Assessment of additional storage needs under the scheme is based on the overall procurement/consumption and the storage space already available. For the consuming areas, storage capacity is to be created to meet four months requirement of PDS and other Welfare Schemes in a State. For the procurement areas, the highest stock levels in the last three years are considered to decide the storage capacity required.

Based on this analysis and criteria laid down in the scheme, State-wise capacity requirement and locations were identified. A capacity of about 152.97 lakh tonnes is to be created in 19 States under the scheme.

(b) No, Sir. The National Commission on Farmers (NCF) set up under the Chairmanship of Dr. M.S. Swaminathan has not made any direct suggestions regarding storage requirements in its five reports including the Revised Draft National Policy for Farmers.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

#### **Export of foodgrains**

\*120. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has recently decided to export foodgrains instead of distributing the excess stock among the poor;

(b) if so, under what pressing circumstances Government has taken this step;

(c) whether Government has allowed traders to export foodgrains; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) Taking into account the availability of foodgrains stocks in the Central pool and considering the requests of States for additional allocations of foodgrains, Government has been making, from time to time, additional allocations of foodgrains to States/Union Territories (UTs) for distribution to the beneficiaries under the Targeted Public Distribution System. During 2010-11, the Government made 105.66 lakh tons of rice and wheat as additional allocation including 50 lakh tons for Below Poverty Line (BPL) families at BPL prices. Similarly, during the current year, the Government made an *ad hoc* additional allocation of 50 lakh tons of rice and wheat for distribution to BPL families at BPL issue prices in all States and Union Territories. Further 50 lakh tons was allocated during the current year to APL families.