

**2. Administrative Measures**

- (i) Removed levy obligation in respect of all imported raw sugar and white/refined sugar.
- (ii) Banned export of edible oils (except coconut oil and forest based oil) and pulses (except Kabuli chana and organic pulses up to a maximum of 10000 tonnes per annum).
- (iii) Imposed ban on export on non-basmati rice and wheat for short period of time.
- (iv) Prohibited export of milk powders (including skimmed milk powder, whole milk powder, dairy whitener and infant milk food).
- (v) Effected no change in Tariff Rate Values of edible oils;
- (vi) Imposed stock limits from time to time in the case of select essential commodities.
- (vii) Ban on export of onion was imposed for short period of time whenever required. Exports of Onion were calibrated through the mechanism of Minimum Export Prices (MEP) of onion.
- (viii) Maintained the Central Issue Price (CIP) for rice (at Rs. 5.65 per kg for BPL and Rs. 3 per kg for AAY) and wheat (at Rs. 4.15 per kg for BPL and Rs. 2 per kg for AAY) since 2002.
- (ix) Suspended Futures trading in rice, urad and Tur.
- (x) The levy obligation on sugar factories restored to 10% for sugar season 2011-12.
- (xi) Allowed increased and liberalized allocation of wheat and rice.
- (xii) Extended the scheme for distribution of subsidized imported pulses upto 30.06.2012 and edible oils upto 30.09.2012.
- (xiii) Organised special drives against hoarding.
- (xiv) State Governments/UT Administrations detained persons under the Prevention of Blackmarketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980, whose activities were found prejudicial to maintenance of supplies of commodities essential to the community. During the year 2011, 270 detention orders were issued.

**Expenditure on NFSB**

3306. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government is bringing the National Food Security Bill (NFSB) in this Parliament Session; and

(b) if so, what would be the extra expenditure for implementation of the Bill in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS) : (a) and (b) The National Food Security Bill, 2011 has been introduced in the Lok Sabha on December 22, 2011. The Bill is presently being examined by the Standing Committee on Food, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution. The amount of extra expenditure involved in its implementation can be firmed up only after finalization of the proposed legislation.

#### **Construction of godowns**

†3307. DR. PRABHA THAKUR : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether sufficient number of godowns in the country have been constructed by Government for storage of foodgrains;

(b) if so, the number of private and Government godowns constructed in Rajasthan respectively; and

(c) the criteria fixed by Government for hiring private godowns and the other criteria fixed by Government for construction of godowns, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS) : (a) The storage capacity, covered and Cover & Plinth (CAP) available, with the Food Corporation of India as on 31.03.2012 was 336.04 lakh tonnes, both owned and hired. The storage capacity with state agencies for storage of central stock of foodgrains as on 31.03.2011 was about 291 lakh tonnes including both covered and CAP capacity. Thus, a total quantity of about 627 lakh tonnes of storage capacity was available for storage of 527 lakh tonnes of Central stock of foodgrains as on 31.03.2012.

(b) and (c) For the State of Rajasthan, as on 31.03.2012 a total capacity of 21.84 lakh tonnes both owned and hired from State agencies and private parties was available with FCI for storage of foodgrains. Due to the increased procurement of foodgrains and to reduce the storage under Cover and Plinth (CAP), 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.

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.