

**Ban of export of sugar, pulses and wheat**

494. SHRI SHADI LAL BATRA:

SHRI N. BALAGANGA:

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

- (a) whether Government has put a ban on export of sugar, pulses, wheat, etc.;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government has received any suggestion from the State Governments particularly Haryana, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) No, Sir. At present there is no ban on export of sugar and wheat. The export of sugar is regulated through release order mechanism with quantitative limits, except that 10,000 tons per annum of Organic Sugar is allowed without release orders. The Government on 9-9-2011 has allowed export of wheat under Open General Licence (OGL) by private parties and State Trading Enterprises (STEs) out of privately held stocks. However, there is a ban on export of pulses (except kabuli chana and organic pulses upto a maximum of 10,000 tonnes per annum). This is to contain inflationary pressure by ensuring adequate domestic availability of pulses.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. The Government has not received any suggestion from the State Governments in this regard.

**Direct transfer of food subsidy**

495. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has formulated any scheme for direct transfer of food subsidy in case to the BPL and AAY beneficiaries, instead of distribution of foodgrains to them;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action taken to implement the scheme sincerely?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) Proposals were received from some State Governments like Bihar, Delhi, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh for direct disbursement of food subsidy incash to Below Poverty Line (BPL)/Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families on pilot basis instead of distribution of foodgrains and sugar to them under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS). Under the proposed scheme, draft of which is under examination, the Department

of Food and Public Distribution will make allocation of funds for disbursement of cash subsidy based upon the number of AAY and BPL ration cards in selected districts. Disbursement of cash subsidy meant for AAY and BPL card holders in pilot districts would be made to district authorities directly, under intimation to the concerned State Governments. The district offices will directly disburse the amount of food subsidy to the respective bank/post office accounts of AAY and BPL ration cardholders on the basis of their entitlement.

#### **Volume of forward trading**

496. SHRI N. BALAGANGA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the volume of forward trading in monetary terms in the country during each of the last three years;
- (b) whether Government has undertaken a study to find out whether the farmers had been benefited from futures trading;
- (c) if so, whether the report of the study has been received; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof including the salient features of the report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The details of the total volume and value of commodities traded in all the commodity futures exchanges in the country are as under:

Year	Volume of trade (in lakh tons)	Value of trading (in Rs. crore)
2008-09	6863.49	5248956.18
2009-10	10142.93	7764754.05
2010-11	12805.57	11948942.35

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir.

(d) A study was assigned by the Forward Markets Commission (FMC); the Regulator for commodity futures markets under the provisions of the Forward Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1952 to NABARD Consultancy Services (NABCONS) in May, 2010 to examine the percolation of benefits of Commodity futures market among small and marginal farmers and increasing their participation in the commodity futures market platform. The NABCONS has submitted its final report in 2011. Nine commodities that were covered under the Study include Cotton, Coffee, Jeera, Turmeric, Pepper, Cardamom, Rubber, Chilli and Maize. Six States were covered namely Punjab, Gujarat, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Kerala and Andhra Pradesh for the purpose of the study. The findings and recommendations of the Report given in Statement I and II.