

**Export of foodgrains for balance of agro-sector**

†1868. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI :

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a decision is required to balance the agro-sector through export of ice, sugar and wheat;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the growth rate of foodgrain production is not likely to be satisfactory in the year 2012; and
- (d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHARAN DAS MAHANT) : (a) and (b) The decision to allow export of agricultural commodities is taken/reviewed from time to time by the Government keeping in view the production, stock position, domestic demand and prices. The export of non-basmati rice and wheat, banned since 09.02.2007 and 01.04.2008, respectively, was lifted on 09.09.2011. Since then, the export of wheat and rice is continuing under Open General License out of privately held stocks.

Similarly, export of 26.18 lakh tonnes of sugar in 2010-11 and 21.53 lakh tonnes in 2011-12 has been permitted by Government under different schemes including Open General License.

(c) and (d) Production of foodgrains, as per Second Advance Estimate of Production for 2011-12, is 250.42 million tonnes, which is higher than the target of 245 million tonnes.

**Increasing crop loan**

†1869. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI :

SHRI PRABHAT JHA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Standing Committee related to the Ministry had recommended to increase the crop loan from Rs. 3 lakh to Rs. 5 lakh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has implemented the recommendation of the Standing Committee;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.