

- Banned export of edible oils (except coconut oil and forest based oil) and edible oils in blended consumer packs upto 5 kg with a capacity of 20,000 tonnes per annum and pulses (except Kabuli chana and organic pulses and lentils up to a maximum of 10000 tonnes per annum).
- Imposed stock limits from time to time in the case of select essential commodities such as pulses, edible oil, and edible oilseeds and in the case of paddy and rice for specific seven States upto 30.11.2012.
- 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).
- 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.
- Suspended Futures trading in rice, urad, tur, guar gum and guar seed.
- To ensure adequate availability of sugar for the households covered under TPDS, the levy obligation on sugar factories was restored to 10% for sugar season 2011-12.
- Government allocated rice and wheat under OMSS Scheme.
- Decided to resume the scheme for subsidized imported pulses through PDS in a varied form with the nomenclature "Scheme for Supply of Imported Pulses at Subsidized rates to States/UTs for Distribution under PDS to BPL card holders" with a subsidy element of Rs. 20/- per Kg for the residual part of the current year and extended the scheme for subsidized imported edible oils to 30.9.2013 with subsidy of Rs.15/- per Kg for import of upto 10 lakh tonnes of edible oils for this period.

Village Grain Banks in Assam

336. SHRIMATI NAZNIN FARUQUE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Village Grain Banks established in Assam during the last three years, district-wise and year-wise; and
- (b) the amount sanctioned and released for setting up of such banks in the State during that period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Based on the proposals received from State Governments for establishment of Village Grain Banks, the Department of Food and Public Distribution sanctions Village Grain Banks to such States. Since, no request for setting up of Village Grain Banks in Assam has been received from the State Government during the last three years, the Department has not sanctioned/released any amount during the said period to the State.

Wheat and paddy procurement

†337. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of purchase of wheat and paddy during the last one year and the current procurement season, State-wise;

(b) whether the complaints regarding exploitation of farmers by the middlemen during procurement in various States have been received;

(c) if so, the details thereof along with the corrective steps taken in this regard;

(d) whether the complaints of selling foodgrains at throw away prices by the farmers at less than the minimum support price have also been received; and

(e) if so, the details thereof, State-wise, along with the steps taken by Government to solve this problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The State-wise details of the procurement of wheat and paddy are given in Statements-I and II respectively.

(b) to (e) Complaints are received from time to time from various quarters regarding alleged irregularities in foodgrains. On receipt of such complaints, these are forwarded to respective State Governments and Food Corporation of India for appropriate action and corrective action is taken wherever required. The specific details of complaints regarding exploitation of farmers by the middlemen during procurement and selling of foodgrains by the farmers at throw away prices below the Minimum Support Price and action taken thereon, are being collected.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.