Export of boiled rice

4207. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether rice millers of Andhra Pradesh would be permitted to export 15 lakh tonnes of boiled rice to other countries under normal trade channel agreement; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Currently, export of all varieties of non-basmati rice including boiled rice is permitted without any quantitative restriction or Minimum Export Price (MEP) since 9-9-2011 under Open General Licence (OGL). Any exporter including the millers of Andhra Pradesh can export the boiled rice to other countries under OGL for which no specific permission of the Government is required.

Comprehensive law on consumer protection

4208. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would bring in a comprehensive law on consumer protection and a redressal forum that deals with different sectors; and

(b) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) The Consumer Protection Act, 1986 which deals with matters concerning consumer protection and redressal of consumer grievances is quite effective and comprehensive. It provides for a three tier structure with a Consumer forum, located in every district of the country, where ordinary consumers can lodge their grievances on payment of nominal fees. Speedy and inexpensive redressal of consumer grievances can be had, even without the services of any lawyer. Amendments to the Act is being made from time to time to bring it up-to-date to cover emerging sectors like e-commerce, telemarketing, etc.