6. The stock limits in respect of onion have been extended by up to 2nd July, 2016 and that of pulses up to 30.9.2016.

7. Procurement of 15000 MT of onion by SFAC and NAFED for market intervention during lean period has been approved.

8. Export of all pulses is banned except kabuli channa and up to 10,000 MTs in organic pulses and lentils.

9. Import of onion and pulses are allowed at zero import duty.

10. Export of edible oils in bulk is prohibited except coconut oil and other edible oils in branded consumer packs of up to 5 kgs. is permitted with a minimum export price of USD 900 per MT.

11. Government has approved creation of buffer stock of 1.5 lakh MT of pulses for effective market intervention in future.

Holding of old stock of foodgrains by FCI

1678. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Food Corporation of India (FCI) holds more than five years old stock of foodgrains in its godowns across the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

Payment of outstanding dues to sugarcane growers

†1679. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large amount of dues of farmers is outstanding with sugar mills of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the amount of outstanding dues to farmers in last year and the current year and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether sugarcane growers of Uttar Pradesh are in pitiable condition due to non-payment of their dues and are facing acute crisis of supporting their families; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) the essential steps being taken for making payment to farmers and whether Government has any concrete and effective plan for making timely payment to farmers in future?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) As on 05.03.2016, the outstanding dues of sugarcane growers against the sugar mills in Uttar Pradesh of 2015-16 and 2014-15 sugar season is as under:-

Sl.No.	Sugar season	Cane Price due in ₹ crore
1.	2015-16	₹ 3375.78
2.	2014-15	₹ 406.41

Due to surplus sugar production during the last four consecutive sugar seasons over domestic consumption and depressed sugar prices, the liquidity of the sugar mills have been adversely affected leading to accumulation of cane price arrears of the farmers.

(c) No, Sir. For the last sugar season 2014-15, only 1.96% cane price is pending. As regards current sugar season 2015-16, crushing is going on and the dues position of farmers changes continuously on account of fresh supplies received and payment made for previous supplies.

(d) The measures taken by the Government to improve the liquidity of sugar mills to clear cane price arrears are as under:-

(i) Provided incentive for exporting raw sugar in sugar seasons 2013-14 and 2014-15.

(ii) Fixed remunerative prices for supplies of ethanol to OMCs for blending with petrol; waived excise duty on ethanol supplies to Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) during 2015-16 and scaled up blending targets from 5% to 10%.

(iii) Extended loans with interest subvention @ 10% p.a. for one year under Soft Loan Scheme 2015.

(iv) Provided performance based production subsidy @ ₹ 4.50 per quintal to sugar mills to offset the cost of cane.

Use of regional language in consumer related documents

1680. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to form a rule to use regional languages for all the documents which are related to the consumers;