

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1031
ANSWERED ON:24.11.2000
ROLE OF APEDA IN DISPOSAL OF PADDY
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Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the role being played by the APEDA in easing the pressure on paddy farmers of Punjab;
- (b) whether a part of the present rice stock lying with farmers of Punjab can be utilised for crash export programmes; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH)

(a) : The functions of APEDA are basically to undertake the development and promotion of export of its scheduled products and other agricultural products assigned to it. APEDA therefore has a negligible role in arranging for lifting of stocks/disposal of rice in the domestic market thereby easing the pressure on the paddy farmers of Punjab.

(b) & (c): As per EXIM Policy, export of rice is free subject to registration with APEDA. The export of rice would depend upon international demand and supply position, domestic demand and supply position, international and domestic prices, consumer preferences, and varieties traded. There is, however, no crash programme for export of rice.