

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3167

ANSWERED ON:22.03.2002

LIFTING CURBS ON EXPORTS OF FOODGRAINS

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**Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government have issued a notification recently which removes all export curbs on several agricultural products including wheat, wheat products, coarse grains, butter and non-basmati rice from the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the extent to which the export of these items would be increased in 2002-2003 as a result thereof;
- (d) whether the Union Government have also worked out a formula for providing World Trade Organisation -compatible subsidies to farm products;
- (e) if so, the reasons for the same;
- (f) the extent to which this has been welcomed by the farmers; and
- (g) the other steps being considered by the Union Government to meet the World Trade Organisation's directive?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY ( SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY )

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. Vide The Directorate General of Foreign Trade, notification No.49 (RE-2001) 1997-2002 dated 5.3.2002, quantitative restrictions on exports of wheat, wheat products, coarse grains and butter, registration requirement for exports of non-basmati rice and packaging restrictions on exports of pulses have been dispensed with.

(c) : It is not possible to estimate the extent to which export of these items would be increased in 2002-03, as exports depend upon various factors.

(d) to (g) : In view of large stocks of foodgrains, with FCI, it has been decided to facilitate exports of wheat, wheat products and rice by reimbursing certain WTO admissible costs on account of marketing and transport.