

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5412
ANSWERED ON:15.05.2007
CLEARANCE FOR EXPORT OF AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES
Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Verma Shri Ravi Prakash

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

- (a) whether a number of agencies presently involved in granting clearance for export of agricultural commodities and causing delays in export transactions;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has any proposal to decrease the number of such agencies;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether it is also proposed to set up export related cold storages near airports and seaports;
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the time by which these are likely to be set up; and
- (g) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to bring down the number of agencies?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a)&(b) A number of clearances are required for export of agricultural commodities. These depend upon the commodity to be exported, the domestic regulations and the requirements of the importing countries. For instance, export of mango to Japan requires Vapour Heat Treatment of the fruit while for export to the United States of America irradiation is essential. For export of ground nuts an export certificate from APEDA is required. Pre shipment inspection is essential for export of meat. These are amongst the other requirements that have to be met for these commodities.

(c),(d)&(g) Yes, Sir. Simplification of procedures including reduction in agencies and clearances required are considered by the Government wherever possible keeping in view the domestic regulations and the requirements of the importing countries. As part of this exercise streamlining and simplification of documentation and regulatory clearances for perishable agricultural produce is under way.

(e) &(f) As part of its ongoing programme for development of infrastructure to facilitate export of agricultural produce the Agriculture and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) has set up Centers for Perishable Cargo (CPCs) to maintain cold chain at international airports at Delhi, Hyderabad, Chennai, Bangalore, Trivandrum and Mumbai. Provision of such facilities at airports in Cochin, Bagdogra, Kolkatta, Goa, Nashik and at Haldia seaport has been taken up.