

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1978
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FOOD POLICY RESEARCH INSTITUTE
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the study conducted by the International Food Policy Research Institute at Washington has revealed that the developing poor countries are facing a loss of 24 billion dollars in the agriculture sector because of the agriculture policy of the wealthy western countries;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether any talks have been made with the western countries in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA)

- (a): In an essay `Developing Countries and the WTO Negotiations` by Eugenio Diaz-Bonilla and Ashok Gulati, published in the Annual Report of International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) for the year 2002-03, it has been stated that `Recent simulations by IFPRI show that those policies by industrialized countries have displaced about US\$40 billion in net agricultural exports per year from developing countries and reduced agricultural incomes in those countries by nearly US\$30 billion (counting both primary and manufactured agricultural products but not related activities such as trade, commerce, and other services)`.
- (b) to (d): The Government of India is aware of the perverse agriculture policies followed by the developed countries and their deleterious impact on the developing countries. Accordingly in the on-going negotiations on the Agreement on Agriculture in the WTO, developing countries including India have demanded the elimination of these policies.