

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4802

ANSWERED ON:26.04.2010

EXPORT OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

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

- (a) whether there has been large-scale export of agriculture products during the current financial year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor, country-wise;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to reduce the export of agriculture products;
- (d) if so, the detailed strategy devised in this regard;
- (e) whether the Government has received any proposal from Tunisia and other countries regarding import of agro products from India;
- (f) if so, the details thereof and reaction of the Government thereto;
- g) whether the Government has conducted any study to assess long term effects of agricultural import on our agriculture and horticulture sector; and
- h) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA)

a) & b) There is ban on exports of various essential agriculture commodities, like wheat, non-basmati rice, pulses to ensure their availability at reasonable price in the domestic market. However, a good amount of export is recorded in certain processed foods and cash crops, like tobacco, etc. The country-wise details are available on the website of the DGCI&S at www.dgciskol.gov.in

c) No, Madam.

d) Does not arise.

e) & f) In July, 2008, the Tunisian side had sought relaxation of the ban on export of rice. Since 1.4.2008, the Government has allowed export of rice of a limited quantity to 39 countries such as Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and some African countries including Tunisia on diplomatic considerations.

g) & h) The Department of Commerce has not done such study in the recent past. Export-Import of agricultural products is under Open General License (OGL) regulated under Foreign Trade Policy. From time to time, the government puts restrictions on the export/import of agricultural products to contain inflation in the country and to ensure their availability at a reasonable price.