

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6205
ANSWERED ON:04.05.2010
DUTY FREE IMPORT OF FOOD ITEMS
Singh Shri Ijyaraj

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the food items being brought into the country by multi-national companies after implementation of import duty free system are affecting the Indian farmers adversely;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to safeguard the interests of the domestic farmers?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a): No, Madam.

(b): Does not arise.

(c): Duty free import has been allowed only for those food items where demand is far higher than domestic production. Further, Minimum Support Price policy of Government for foodgrains ensures remunerative prices to the farmers for their produce.