

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6355

ANSWERED ON:04.05.2010

MEETING ON AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION

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**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Agriculture Ministers of Brazil, Russia, India and China (BRIC) block of nations have discussed the issues regarding agriculture, food security, meat trade and climate change in the recently concluded meeting in Moscow;

(b) if so, the details of various issues discussed and decisions arrived at; and

(c) the details of the steps taken by the Government to safeguard the interest of Indian agriculture and meat trade?

**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) to (c): Agriculture Ministers of Brazil, Russia, India and China (BRIC), met in Moscow and agreed on broad contours of quadrilateral cooperation in agricultural sector with particular attention to family farming the development of which will not only help long term interests of the four States but contribute towards global food security. The four major areas identified for cooperation, include:

- i) Creation of agricultural information base system of the BRIC countries;
- ii) Development of a general strategy for ensuring access to food for the most vulnerable population;
- iii) Reduction of negative impact of climate change on food security and adaptation of agriculture to climatic changes; and
- iv) Enhance agricultural technology cooperation and innovation.

It was also agreed to set up a standing Expert Working Group for implementation of measures collectively agreed.

Separately, during bilateral discussions with Russia, the issue of withdrawal of restrictions in supply of meat and poultry products from India to Russia was also taken up.