

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4583
ANSWERED ON:23.04.2010
SEIZURE OF TOXIC WHEAT
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Customs Department has seized 1250 tonnes of toxic wheat from Australia;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon; and;
- (c) steps taken or being taken to restrict such activities in future?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S.PALANIMANICKAM)

(a)&(b): Customs have detained 1250 MTS of Wheat, valued at Rs.1.78 crores, imported from Australia in 50 containers at Chennai port on a reasonable suspicion that the same contained pesticide beyond permissible level. The Central Food Laboratory, Mysore has confirmed that the above said consignment was found to contain a pesticide residue chlorpyrifos @ 0.75 Mg/Kg which exceeds the maximum permissible limit of @ 0.05 Mg/Kg and was unfit for human consumption.

(c) All the Customs Port formations as well as the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence are on alert to prevent import of Toxic Wheat into the Country.