

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3138

ANSWERED ON:29.11.2010

EXPORT AND IMPORT OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

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

- (a) the details of import of agricultural produces during last three years, country wise alongwith the concessions provided to importers;
- (b) whether any scheme is being run by the Government to encourage export of surplus agri-commodities;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the extent to which it is beneficial to the farmers;
- (d) the steps being taken to assess the impact of imports on domestic market and reduce the import of agricultural produces;
- (e) whether any study has been conducted to assess the impact of export of agricultural produce on domestic consumption; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) The details of imports of agricultural produces, country wise are available at the website of Department of Commerce at <http://commerce.gov.in/>. Presently, to cover the deficit in the availability of pulses in the domestic market, there is a scheme of 15% subsidy to cover the loss, if any, on import of pulses by the Public Sector Units (PSUs) and National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation (NAFED) upto 31.03.2011.

(b) Encouraging export is a continuous process. The Government is taking steps to encourage export of agro products through measures and incentives under Plan Schemes of the Commodity Boards and Export Promotion Councils. Further in order to boost export of Indian products, Ministry of Commerce & Industry has put in place various schemes namely Market Development Assistance (MDA), Market Assistance Initiative (MAI), Assistance to States for Developing Export Infrastructure and Allied Activities (ASIDE), Visesh Krishi and Gram Udyog Yojana (VKGUY), Focus Market Scheme (FMS), Town of Export Excellence, etc. Trade delegations are sent abroad and Buyer- Seller meets are organized in this direction. Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) under the administrative control of the Department of Commerce also operates various schemes to extend financial assistance to the eligible exporters registered with it to boost the overall Agri exports.

(c) On account of above mentioned measures on export promotion, the export value of agri products monitored by APEDA has increased during five years from Rs.18,783 crore in 2005-06 to Rs.34,686.87 crore in 2009-10 indicating benefits to the farmer.

(d to f) As regard essential commodities, the Government from time to time reviews the domestic situation of availability/deficit/surplus of these commodities in various Empowered Group of Ministers (EGoM) and Committee of Secretaries (CoS) meetings and then decides on allowing or putting ban/restriction on exports/imports of agricultural commodities depending upon several factors like domestic demand and supply position, price trends of agricultural commodities in domestic market, the demand and supply situation in the international market, price trend in international market and the welfare of common man.