

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1380

ANSWERED ON:16.11.2010

CO-OPERATION IN AGRICULTURE SECTOR

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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether an Indian delegation has visited Brazil for exploring possibilities of cooperation in production of ethanol and investment in agriculture in the recent past;
- (b) if so, the details of the issues discussed;
- (c) the details of the issues on which India and Brazil have agreed for cooperation;
- (d) the details of the existing trade in agriculture between both the countries; and
- (e) the extent to which Indian agriculture is likely to be benefited by such cooperation?

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 (e): An Indian delegation led by Union Agriculture Minister visited Brazil from 8th- 10th September, 2010, primarily to look at the technologies being employed in getting higher productivity and value added products from sugarcane. Bilateral discussions took place with Brazilian Agriculture Minister for deepening cooperation under existing MoU on Agriculture. Bilateral talk also led to prospect for active exploration of opportunities for promotion of agri-business in sugar, pulses, oilseeds and animal husbandry sectors. India's agricultural export to Brazil in 2009-10 was US \$ 52.51 million whereas India's imports during the same period were of the order of US\$ 1398.61 million.

India's agriculture is likely to benefit significantly from collaboration with Brazil in the agriculture and allied sectors.