

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:201

ANSWERED ON:01.08.2011

IMPORT OF ONION THROUGH STCS

Ponnam Shri Prabhakar;Shetkar Shri Suresh Kumar

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

(a) whether the Government has been importing onions through the State Trading Corporations (STCs) and Public Enterprises Companies over a period of time; and

(b) if so, the State-wise details of the total amount spent for such imports during each year of the Eleventh Five Year Plan?

Answer

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

(a)&(b) During December 2010, in view of the steep rise in the prices of onion, Government banned export of onion and reduced the import duty to zero to facilitate imports to increase the domestic availability. The Government also considered arrangements of import of onion through public sector units.

M/s PEC Ltd. imported a quantity of 1029.810 MT of Pakistani origin onions during January-February, 2011 valued at Rs.3,04,03,218/- which were auctioned through NAFED at Azadpur Mandi.