

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:798  
ANSWERED ON:19.03.2012  
EXPORT OF RICE  
Vardhan Shri Harsh

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

- (a) whether United States of America (USA) is India`s biggest competitor in the export of Basmati Rice to Iraq;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the USA is putting undue pressure on Iraq to procure rice from them instead of India;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the reaction of the Government thereto alongwith the action taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

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

(a & b) As per the statistics of Bureau of Census, United States of America (USA) does not export basmati rice to Iraq. Basmati rice is produced only in a designated geographical area under the foothills of Himalaya encompassing the states of Punjab (on either side of Indo-Pak Border), Haryana, Uttarakhand, Western Uttar Pradesh (26 districts) and two districts of J&K viz Jammu and Kathua.

(c & d) The Government is not aware of such efforts by USA.

(e) Does not arise.