

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5248

ANSWERED ON:08.05.2012

BAN ON EXPORT OF ONION

Bapurao Shri Khatgaonkar Patil Bhaskarrao;Gaikwad Shri Eknath Mahadeo;Paranjpe Shri Anand Prakash

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the farmers in Maharashtra are suffering huge losses due to bumper production of onion and ban on its export in the last few months;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the State Government of Maharashtra has requested to the Union Government to remove the ban on export of onion and introduce market intervention scheme to check the losses of the farmers;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) & (b): Production of onion in Maharashtra is estimated to be slightly higher in 2011-12 (50.36 lakh MT) than that in the previous year (49.05 lakh MT). There is no assessment of losses to farmers, if any, on account of higher production. Further, presently there is no ban on export of onion. Export of onion was banned last time on 09.09.2011 which was lifted on 20.09.2011 subject to a Minimum Export Price (MEP). Subsequently, MEP has been revised from time to time keeping in view the market arrival and prices of onions.

(c) to (e): Maharashtra Government had requested the Union Government to remove the ban on export of onion immediately after its imposition. However, there is no proposal from Maharashtra Government for assistance under Market Intervention Scheme, as per guidelines of the scheme.