

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7349
ANSWERED ON:21.05.2012
REJECTION OF RICE CONSIGNMENTS
Singh Smt. Meena

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

- (a) whether the consignments of Indian basmati rice exported to European countries has been rejected due to the presence of higher quantity of pesticide residue during 2010-11;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Indian Basmati Rice Exporters Association have served legal notice to the European laboratory challenging the method of testing; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

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

(a & b) During 2010-11, traces of pesticides like Isoprothiolane, Pirimiphos methyl and Carbendazim were detected by some laboratories in some of the consignments of Indian Basmati rice in United Kingdom, France, Germany, Belgium and Italy. On account of this, some exporters had to recall their consignments from European markets.

(c & d) All India Rice Exporters Association had served legal notice to the European Laboratory challenging the validation of the testing method. However, lawyers advised that as per European law, there might not be much relief expected by pursuing the legal course. The matter has been raised in bilateral meetings by the Government of India with the countries of EU.