

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:228

ANSWERED ON:10.12.2012

RESTRICTIONS ON EXPORT

Joshi Dr. Murli Manohar;Tandon Shri Lal Ji

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

- (a) whether the Government has imposed any restrictions on the foreign trade of certain commodities including onion, sugar, cotton, milk and other agricultural products;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to review the export/import policy in this regard including complete withdrawal of the ban or quantitative restrictions imposed, if any, on the export of onion, sugar and cotton;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the benefits likely to be accrued to the farmers and the central exchequer as a result thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY(SHRI ANAND SHARMA)

a)to e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 228 FOR ANSWER ON 10TH DECEMBER 2012 REGARDING " RESTRICTIONS ON EXPORT"

(a) & (b): Export of certain commodities is prohibited/restricted under the Foreign Trade Policy. These include all wild animals, wood and semi-finished wood products, pulses(with a few exemptions), edible oils (with a few exemptions), plants and plant portions covered under the CITES list & Wildlife (Protection) Act, fodder, certain type of fertilizers, wood pulps etc. and items covered under Special Chemicals, Organism, Materials, Equipment & Technologies (SCOMET). The complete list is available on the website of DGFT www.dgft.gov.in. The prohibition/restriction on export is to ensure (i) availability of the commodities for domestic use/consumption at reasonable prices (ii) to safeguard natural resources & environment and (iii) to take care of proliferation concerns.

(c) to (e): Review of export/import policy is a continuous process undertaken by the Government from time to time. The Government reviews the export/import policy in consultation with the administrative Ministries, Departments and other stakeholders concerned, keeping in view the various factors such as availability of goods in the domestic market, production, the price situation and various national and international commitments etc. Export of Cotton was temporarily restricted in March, 2012 which was subsequently revoked. Ban on export of onion has also been removed. Export of sugar has not been restricted in the last three years.