

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5400
ANSWERED ON:29.04.2013
IRREGULARITIES IN PULSE IMPORT
Jaiswal Shri Gorakh Prasad ;Rama Devi Smt.

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

- (a) whether there has been instance of irregularities in the import of pulses causing huge loss to the national exchequer during the last three years and the current year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has initiated any enquiry in the matter;
- (d) if so, the findings of the enquiry along with the action taken against those found guilty and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the preventive measures being taken by the Government to avoid such incidents in future?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. D. PURANDESWARI)

- (a) & (b) No irregularities have been reported in the import of pulses during the last three years and the current year. However, C&AG in its Performance report on Sale and Distribution of Pulses has made certain observations on import of pulses on Government account by PSUs. In the current year, there have been no imports of pulses under Government directives.
- (c) & (d) No, Madam. The imports were undertaken under schemes to bridge the gap between demand and supply of pulses in the domestic market and to exercise a moderating influence on domestic prices. The losses incurred were largely attributable to external factors such as increase in the international prices of pulses, exchange rate fluctuations, etc. which were beyond the control of import agencies.
- (e) The schemes for import of pulses have since been discontinued.