

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1020

ANSWERED ON:12.08.2013

VIOLATIONS OF WTO RULES

Joshi Dr. Murli Manohar;Lagadapati Shri Rajagopal;Singh Shri Rajiv Ranjan (Lalan);Sivasami Shri C.

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

- (a) the details of agricultural products exported to United States of America (USA) and European countries;
- (b) whether the USA has imposed ban/restrictions on the import of various agricultural products originating from India and if so, the details thereof along with the efforts made by the Government to address the problems;
- (c) whether the USA has raised objections to the India's Food Security Ordinance on the grounds that it is likely to violate the agriculture agreement with the World Trade Organisation (WTO) and if so, the efforts made by the Government to counter these objections;
- (d) whether the USA has imposed any condition on India for the said Food Security Ordinance and if so, the details thereof along with the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (e) whether USA and European nations are violating the prescribed WTO rules by providing economic subsidies to the agricultural sector in their respective countries and if so, the details thereof along with reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

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

- (a) The details of agricultural products exported to United States of America (USA) and European countries are as given below:

Year Export to USA
 Quantity- MTs Value-Rs lakhs
2010-11 575455 811337
2011-12 1097081 2279198
2012-13 781095 2916283
2013-14 213016 716017
(Apr-May)
Source: APEDA

Year Export to EU
 Quantity- MTs Value-Rs lakhs
2010-11 1505793 1472508
2011-12 2058616 2063381
2012-13 2288091 2308980
2013-14 457679 564305
(Apr-May)
Source: APEDA

- (b) The import of agricultural produce into any country is governed by the trade regulations of the importing & exporting country. From time to time, the Government of India takes up bilateral trade issues including Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS) and Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) issues with the concerned country in various fora including bilateral meetings and interactions between the two countries

Recently, basmati rice consignments were detained by USA Customs and these were cleared after testing of samples for presence of pesticide residue by USFDA. The Government had taken up the matter with the Government of USA to advise Environment Protection Agency (EPA) to examine the detailed dossier submitted by M/s Dow Agro Sciences for setting import tolerance on Tricyclazole in rice so that US Food and Drug Administration (USFDA) may exercise enforcement discretion till the process of setting import tolerance is completed by the EPA

- (c&d) There has been no objection and or condition put by USA to the India's Food Security Ordinance at the WTO, so far.

- (e) All the agricultural subsidies are periodically required to be notified to the WTO. The notifications/policy measures of the members are mentioned by the WTO Committee on Agriculture comprising of all the WTO members. Any departure from the WTO

commitments or violation of WTO rules is discussed in the Committee and the Member concerned is asked to explain their position. Beside, the issue of violation of WTO rules can also be taken to WTO Dispute Settlement Mechanism for ensuring compliance to the WTO rules.