

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1047  
ANSWERED ON:12.08.2013  
POLICY ON TRADE OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS  
Singh Shri Uday Pratap

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

- (a) whether the Government has received various suggestions from other Ministries/trading organizations/exporters and farmers regarding the framing of policy on export/import of agricultural products during the last three years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the action taken by the Government in this regard;
- (d) whether the Government has conducted any assessment/survey on the impact of the trade policy on the farmers and traders and if so, the details thereof along with the outcome of such assessment/survey; and
- (e) the action plan prepared by the Government to rope in and consult all interested parties before framing any policy on trade of agricultural products?

**Answer**

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

- (a & b) The Government, from time to time, keeps receiving representations from various quarters on various aspects related to agricultural export policy. This issue was also raised by Sh. Raju Shetty, MP in the Parliament.
- (c) The export of agricultural products depends on various factors including availability of surplus over and above the requirement of buffer stock including strategic reserve, concerns of food security, diplomatic/humanitarian considerations, international demand and supply situation, quality standards in the importing countries, varieties traded and price competitiveness, need to balance between remunerative prices to the growers and availability of agricultural products to common man at affordable prices. The Government takes into the above factors before deciding on the export/ import of agricultural commodities. During last two year, the Government has decided to remove the ban on the exports of wheat, non-basmati rice, sugar, milk products, wheat products (sooji and maida) and various value added agricultural commodities. In the case of Pulses and edible oils, where the country is facing scarcity, restrictions on exports have been maintained but some premium varieties of these products have also been made free for exports
- (d): Department of Commerce has not conducted any such survey/ assessment in the recent past.
- (e) It is the well established practice in Government of India to consult all relevant stakeholders before framing any policy.