GOVERNMENT OF INDIA COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1976 ANSWERED ON:19.08.2013 RELIEF FOR GRAPE EXPORTERS Bhujbal Shri Sameer

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes any relief measures for the grape owners and exporters particularly from Maharashtra region for the huge losses incurred by them on the export of grapes to Europe;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to formulate schemes in consultation with Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority of India (APEDA) to export grapes to newer areas like CIS countries, Russia and South-East Asia;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

- (a & b) The Government granted the following relief measures to grape exporters:
- i) The exporters of grapes covered by ITC HS Code 0806 are entitled for additional 2% Duty Credit Scrip, over and above the normal rate of 5% under Vishesh Krishi and Gram Udyog Yojana (VKGUY) Scheme for exports affected on or after 23rd December, 2010.
- ii) The scheme for reimbursement of testing of grape consignments for export to European Union (EU) with assistance of maximum Rs 5,000/ sample was allowed.

In addition to the above, a special package under NHM to the tune of Rs. 486.94 lakh was sanctioned to the Government of Maharashtra during 2010-11 for adoption of Good Agriculture Practices (GAP), Integrated Nutrient Management (INM)/Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and Human Resource Development (HRD) to grape producers.

(c & d) The Government continuously monitors the global economic development and takes need based measures from time to time. APEDA under its Scheme for Market Development, inter-alia, undertakes export promotion and market development activities which includes publicity and promotion, brand publicity, buyer seller meet, product promotion, exchange of delegations, participation in exhibitions/fairs/events etc. abroad.

However, grapes are already being exported to Russia, and some other CIS countries like Ukraine and Belarus apart from South East Asian countries like Thailand, Malaysia, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Phillipines, Vietnam, Indonesia, Singapore etc.

(e) Does not arise.