

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2599
ANSWERED ON:04.12.2009
IMPORT DUTY ON RICE
Ponnam Shri Prabhakar

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the views of farmers of each State, especially Andhra Pradesh had been taken in regard to the abolition of import duty on rice; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM)

(a) No, Sir.

(b) In view of the likely reduction in production of rice in Kharif Marketing Season 2009-10 due to delayed and deficit monsoon, import duty on semi-milled or wholly-milled rice has been reduced to Nil with effect from 14th October, 2009 to facilitate private imports of rice, increase the domestic availability and keep prices under check. The exemption is valid till 30th September, 2010.