

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6988

ANSWERED ON:08.05.2015

IMPORT OF PLASTIC RICE

Ray Dr. Ravindra Kumar

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of import of plastic rice to Southern India thereby putting human lives in danger;
- (b) if so, the facts thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has conducted investigation in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details and the outcome thereof; and
- (e) the action taken/likely to be taken by the Government against the culprits in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a) to (e) Import of rice is allowed only through FCI as per its Import Policy under Chapter 10 of Indian Trade Classification (Harmonised System), 2012, Schedule – I (Import Policy). Further, import of rice is subject to clearance by Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI).

Whether 'Plastic Rice' is a name given to an agricultural product- say a variety of rice, is itself unclear. As such, there is no Exim Code for 'Plastic Rice' in Indian Trade Classification (Harmonised System), 2012, Schedule – I (Import Policy) and no such import of 'Plastic Rice' has been permitted.