

Export of organic produce

1031. SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the forest and agriculture area, separately under organic cultivation during the years 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09;

(b) the quantum of organic produce during the years 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09 (forest and agriculture, separately);

(c) the value of exports (in INR) of organic produce during the years 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09 (forest and agriculture, separately); and

(d) the amount spent by APEDA on the promotion of organic produce/products during the years 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) The details of area under organic cultivation during the years 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09 are as follows:

Area under organic cultivation	Area in Hectare	
	Agriculture	Forest
2006-07	339113	NA
2007-08	339113	NA
2008-09	858469	2932500

Source: APEDA; NA- Not Available

(b) The details of organic produce during the years 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09 are as under:

Year	Quantity in Tonnes		
	Organic produce	Wild collection	Total Production
2006-07	585970	NA	585970
2007-08	956797	2301	959098
2008-09	1621640	2599	1624239

Source: APEDA; NA- Not Available

(c) The value of exports of organic produce during the years 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09 are Rs 30124 lakhs, Rs 49822 lakhs and Rs. 53690 lakhs respectively. Separate value of exports of forest and agriculture produce is not being maintained.

(d) The amount spent by APEDA on the promotion of organic produce/products during the years 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09 are Rs. 59.42 lakhs, Rs. 72.82 lakhs and Rs. 124.18 lakhs respectively.

Rejection of EU's demand on social clauses in FTA

1032. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has rejected the European Union's demand on including social clauses such as labour and environmental standards in the proposed Free Trade Agreement (FTA) saying there are other forums to discuss the issues; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and EU's reaction in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. India has always maintained that there are alternative fora to discuss social issues including matters related to labour and environmental standards and that all the Free Trade Agreements should focus on trade related issues only.

FTA *vis-a-vis* multilateral talks under WTO

1033. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the difference between the Free Trade Agreements and the earlier trade talks under the WTO regime is that while the multilateral talks under WTO are relatively open with texts in the public domain, the FTA talks are shrouded in secrecy;

(b) whether the Government is aware that the EU wants Indian market to be opened for heavily subsidized EU farm products and wants the patent and copyright regime strengthened, making more pro-monopoly; and

(c) if so, whether Government would proceed further on the India-EU FTA and all other FTAs unless all current proposals, negotiating drafts are debated and discussed in Parliament and with the State Governments?