

### Impact of FTA on domestic industries

2342. SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of countries with which India entered into Free Trade Agreements since January, 2004 to December, 2009;

(b) the details of commodities that are supposed to enter into Indian market as a result of these Free Trade Agreements; and

(c) the possible impact of domestic industry which is producing the same commodities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Following is the list of countries with which India entered into Free Trade Agreements since January, 2004 to December, 2009:—

Sl. No.	Name of the Agreement	Date of signing of the Agreement	Date of implementation
1.	Agreement on South Asia Free Trade Area (SAFTA)	04.01.2004	01.01.2006
2.	Early Harvest Scheme (EHS) under the Framework Agreement between India and Thailand	01.09.2004	01.09.2004
3.	India — Singapore Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement	29.06.2005	01.08.2005
4.	Trade in Goods under the India — ASEAN Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement	13.08.2009	01.01.2010
5.	India — Korea Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement	07.08.2009	01.01.2010
6.	India — MERCOSUR Preferential Trade Agreement	25.01.2004	01.06.2009
7.	India — Chile Preferential Trade Agreement	08.03.2006	11.09.2007

(b) No commodities can enter the Indian market if they are prohibited under the Foreign Trade Policy. Whether a product is prohibited from imports or requires prior permission before imports or is freely importable is decided by the Foreign Trade Policy. Free Trade Agreements

can only offer duty reduction on specific products and cannot change the import policy for any product/commodity.

(c) In view of (b) does not arise.

#### **Impetus to export of agricultural products**

2343. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether targets for export of agricultural products are not fixed in terms of quantity and value of products;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) the details regarding major items of agricultural products exported during the last three years; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government to give impetus to export of agricultural products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) Government does not fix targets for export of agricultural products because agricultural policy in India is guided by a number of goals which include food self sufficiency, ensuring remunerative prices to farmers and to ensure the availability of essential commodities in the domestic market. From time to time, the Government puts restrictions on the export/import of agricultural products to contain inflation in the country to ensure their availability at a reasonable price. Moreover, the exports of agricultural products depend on international demand and supply situation and the prevailing domestic and international prices.

(c) Details of major items of agricultural products exported during the last three years is as given below:—

Value:Rs. crore			
Item	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010
1	2	3	4
Basmati Rice	4345	9477	10839
Non-Basmati Rice	7410	1687	415
Wheat	*	1	*
Other Cereals	3002	3920	3005
Pulses	526	540	407