

Export of onion, tomato and pulses

170. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether prices of pulses which are rising for the past few months are likely to fall by March this year;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether Government exports onion, tomato and pulses to the USA, European Union and SAARC countries; and

(d) if so, the details of exports during the last two years and what are the reasons for export when domestic demand is very high?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) The prices of the commodities are determined by the market forces depending upon several factors including domestic and international demand & supply situation, cost of production etc.

(c) and (d) Export activity is driven by the demand and supply factors. Wherever, there is scarcity or short supply of the produce in the domestic market, government takes initiative like ban of exports to ensure availability of such products to consumers at reasonable price. Currently, export of onions and tomatoes are allowed, whereas export of pulses (except kabuli chana) is banned. The details of export of onions and tomatoes to the USA, EU & SAARC countries during 2008-09 & 2009-10 are as under:

(Qty in Metric Tonnes, Value in Rs. Lakh)

Product	2008-09		2009-10	
	Qty	Val	Qty	Val
Tomatoes				
a) SAARC	111849	11185	95231	9137
b) EU	3.49	0.06	4.21	0.15
c) USA	1.90	0.20	0	0
Onions				
a) SAARC	1295098	140522	1340472	187804
b) EU	5330	709	7768	1267
c) USA	151	25	58	9

Source: APEDA