

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (d) No, sir. An awareness campaign for brand promotion of Indian Tea was launched in the financial year 1998-99 in Poland as it was noticed that many private parties using cheaper quality teas were mislabelling their packets as 'India Tea'. These packets contained—either nil or negligible quantity of Indian tea. Tea Board therefore embarked upon a logo specific campaign to convey that packet teas with the Indian tea Logo only contained 100% Indian tea. Accordingly this campaign was undertaken at a cost of Rs. 35.00 lakhs during April, 1998.

Import and Export by MMTC

†791. SHRI VIJAY SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that MMTC imports and exports various items on large scale;

(b) if so, the complete details of items imported and exported during the last three years;

(c) whether it is also a fact that MMTC had drawn up a scheme of export of Basmati rice without getting order from any country;

(d) if so, the objective behind such an export policy; and

(e) the action being taken by Government for loss of revenue suffered by the export policy of the MMTC?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Details of major items imported and exported by MMTC during the last three years are given in the enclosed statement (See below).

(c) to (e) In the liberalised trade regime and in a bid to broad base its trading activities, MMTC has also been dealing in agro commodities both for import and export. Based on the experience gained in the agro commodities and basmati rice being a traditionally potential commodity for export, MMTC made an effort to develop a capital supply source by processing of basmati paddy. However, because of contractual default on the part of the processor, MMTC has initiated legal proceedings to recover its dues.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

[31st July, 2000]

RAJYA SABHA

Statement

MMTC's EXPORTS DURING THE LAST THREE YEARS

(Value in Rs. Crore)

ITEMS	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000 (Prov.)
Minerals and Ores	981	947	1036
Agro Products	75	55	10
Industrial Products/Engineering Products	46	4	1
Gold/Silver/Gems	42	20	142
Finished Fertilizer/Fertilizer Raw Materials	33	3	7
Building Materials	6	9	12
Textiles	3	—	—
Other	1	4	—
TOTAL	1187	1042	1208

MMTC's IMPORT DURING THE LAST THREE YEARS

(Value in Rs. Crore)

ITEMS	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000 (Prov.)
Finished Fertilizer and Fertilizer Raw Materials	672	180	305
Non Ferrous Metals and Industrial Raw materials	274	217	316
Gold/Silver/Gems	2115	2649	2553
Agro Products	—	60	252
Coal and Hydro Carbon	69	35	144
Textiles	—	3	5
Minerals and Ores	—	—	6
Others	2	1	1
TOTAL	3132	3145	3582

(Source: MMTC)