

Effect of withdrawal of minimum export price to export onion

†4349. SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI :

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI :

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has drafted a proposal to withdraw minimum export price to promote onion export from the country during the summer season;

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

(c) whether it is also a fact that the demand of onion soars during the summer season only in the country;

(d) if so, whether the prices of onion will increase in domestic market owing to the pressure mounting on supply of domestic demand in the country due to increase in export; and

(e) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has permitted export of onions without any Minimum Export Price (MEP) with effect from 8th May, 2012 for the period upto 2nd July, 2012 through Notification No.116 (RE-2010)/2009-2014 dated 8th May, 2012.

(c) to (e) The prices of onions in the domestic market are a result of factors like overall production in all the three production seasons (*viz. Kharif, late kharif and Rabi* crop), domestic consumption, export orders, availability of surplus, domestic and international demand and supply situation.

Fixing of quantity for cotton and sugar export

†4350. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD :

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI :

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the quantity of cotton and sugar export from the country has been fixed for the annual period from October, 2011 to September, 2012;

(b) if so, the details of the quantity fixed and the amount which has been exported out of this till April, 2012;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether the quantity of their production and consumption has also been estimated in the country before the decision to export; and

(d) if so, the details of the quantities estimated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Government reviews export policy of all items including sugar and cotton from time to time in consultation with the administrative Ministries and the Departments concerned, taking into account various factors such as availability of goods in the domestic market, production, the price situation and various national and international commitments etc. Policy on export keeps in view domestic availability and need to maintain a balance between producers of exportable goods and domestic users of such goods. During the current sugar season (October-September) the sugar production has been estimated at 251.97 lakh tons. Cotton production has been estimated at 352 lakh bales.

Setting up Kaolin based industry

†4351. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is contemplating to set up Kaolin based industry for providing employment to unemployed tribal youths of backward areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether new industrial licences are being issued by Government to certain other sectors including tobacco and drugs industries;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the number of new licences issued by Government in the various regions of the country including Uttarakhand during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) and (b) The details of Kaolin based industry are not maintained by this Ministry.

(c) and (d) At present under the Industrial Development and Regulation Act, 1951, the following sectors require compulsory Industrial Licensing:

(i) Distillation and brewing of alcoholic drinks.

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