

(b) what action is being taken by Government of India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) Gede Railway Station is declared as the Land Customs Station by CBIC and the route prescribed for trade is Kolkata-Gede-Darshana-Dhaka. Thus, Gede-Darshana is the Land Customs Station (LCS) pair on India-Bangladesh border for bilateral trade through rail route. Certain port restrictions on import of products from India are in place at various border trade points in Bangladesh. However, since different types of oil cakes are allowed for import into Bangladesh through Darshana, there is no such restriction as regards this product at Darshana.

As per DGCIS database, the quantum of export of Soya De-oiled Cake from Gede for F.Y. 2017-18 is NIL, while total exports to Bangladesh under HS code 230400 was USD 136.22 million. While soya de-oiled cakes is an important item of export to Bangladesh, Gede-Darshana is not important from the perspective of export of soya de-oiled cakes from India to Bangladesh.

Congestion at Darshana Land Port, Bangladesh has not been reported to the Government by exporters of de-oiled cakes from India to Bangladesh.

Exempting pulses from import

2291. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has taken a decision to exempt pulses from import in view of high rise in domestic production;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the incentives being given to the exporters or; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government to increase export of pulses and earn foreign exchange?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) The Government has restricted import of pulses like tur, moong and urad since August, 2017 with annual Quota Restriction of 5 lakh MT (2 lak MT for tur, 1.5 lakh MT each for urad and moong) in order to stabilise the prices and protect the interest of the farmers.

(c) and (d) All varieties of pulses, including organic pulses, have been made 'Free' for export without any quantitative ceiling. The export has been allowed through Customs EDI ports. However, export through the non-EDI Land Custom

Stations (LCS) on Indo-Bangladesh and Indo-Nepal border has also been allowed subject to registration of quantity with DGFT. Under the Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS) of the Foreign Trade Policy 2015-2020, Bengal Gram with HS Code 07132020 was provided rewards at the rate of 7% for exports made between 20.03.2018 to 20.09.2018.

**Losses to coffee and spices plantations due to floods
in Karnataka and Kerala**

2292. SHRI HISHEY LACHUNGPA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assessment of loss occurred to coffee and spices plantations in Kodagu, Karnataka and Kerala has been made in view of heavy rains and floods in the regions;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government intends to provide some incentives and relief to coffee and spices growers to help them establish their plantation;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) how much time it will take by the coffee and spices growers to attain financial stability?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) Yes sir. The Coffee Board, along with Revenue, Agriculture and Horticulture Departments of Government of Karnataka, conducted detailed scientific assessment of damage due to heavy rains in the district of Kodagu, Hassan and Chikkamagaluru and submitted the assessment report to the concerned Deputy Commissioners, Government of Karnataka. In respect of Kerala, a detailed scientific assessment was conducted by Coffee Board and a detailed report was submitted to the Government of Kerala. The details are as under:—

| State | Area affected by crop loss of > 33% (Ha.) | Area damaged due to landslides and floods (Ha.) | Total crop loss occurred due to heavy rains (MT) |
|-----------|---|---|--|
| Karnataka | 99984 | 550 | 60,103 |
| Kerala | 10308 | 73.60 | 9256 |
| TOTAL | 110292 | 623.60 | 69359 |

Source: Coffee Board.