

Effect of Coronavirus on Indo-China trade and commerce

3098. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has assessed the likely effect of Coronavirus (COVID-19) on Indo-China trade and commerce;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the precautionary measures being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) to (c) The outbreak of Corona Virus in China has led to restrictions on movement of people and business activities in many provinces of China, in order to control the spread of virus. Disruption in business activities in China may have an impact on Indian industries such as pharmaceuticals, automobile and electronics industries, which depend on China for supplies of raw materials, components or intermediate items.

The Government has taken the initiative to sensitize the Export Promotion Councils/Trade Bodies and our overseas Missions on the likely disruptions in supply chains and put the Export Promotion Councils in contact with our overseas Missions to explore alternate sources/markets in those countries.

Gifting of tribal items at official functions

3099. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR GUPTA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that various Ministries and Departments may gift only tribal items to dignitaries at official functions and festivals in near future;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the other initiatives the Ministry proposes to promote tribal products internationally?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b) To promote Government institutional purchases, Tribal Co-Operative Marketing Development Federation of India Limited (TRIFED), Ministry of Tribal Affairs has a

presence in Government e-Marketplace (GeM) through its outlets 'TRIBES India'. TRIFED also markets tribal products through its own e-commerce portal 'tribesindia.com' and also through other e-Market Channels. As a special drive for boosting the institutional sales and gifting, the Government Departments, Central/State PSUs, other State Federations, Institutions/Clubs, commercial bodies, Corporates etc are being requested to patronize tribal products by purchasing these products from TRIBES India for all their gifting to dignitaries at official functions and festivals.

(c) TRIFED, Ministry of Tribal Affairs has been implementing Schemes of "Institutional Support for Development and Marketing of Tribal Products/Produce" for socio-economic development of tribal communities. Tribes India outlets are operational at airports, namely Chennai, Jaipur, Ahmedabad, Udaipur, Coimbatore, Trivandrum, Pune, Kolkata, Goa. TRIFED also participates in international exhibitions/trade fairs through Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts and India Trade Promotion Organisations.

Ban on import of Basmati rice from India

3100. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that India is a major exporter of best quality of Basmati rice in the world;
- (b) if so, the countries who prefer Indian rice for their consumption;
- (c) whether there is any complaint from any of such countries for using of excessive chemicals and fertilizers during its plantation; and
- (d) if so, whether there is any ban on import of Basmati rice from India, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) Yes, Sir. India is the largest exporter of Basmati rice in the world.

(b) Details of top importers of Basmati rice from India are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) All exports of basmati rice from India have to conform to the quality, sanitary and phyto-sanitary standards of the importing countries. Non-compliance with these