

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5136

ANSWERED ON:25.08.2000

DISCONTINUATION OF IMPORT BY ALGERIA FROM INDIA

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Algerian Government discontinued the import of Indian tobacco and other agriculture produce since 1994;
- (b) if so, the facts and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the total quantity and value of the products imported annually by Algeria;
- (d) the action, if any, taken by the Government against persons responsible for the loss of revenue suffered by India since 1994 ; and
- (e) the steps being taken to resolve the problem ?

Answer

MINISTER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN)

- a) Only M/s SNTA, the Algerian Government tobacco monopoly agency has stopped imports of tobacco from India since 1994. Imports of other agricultural commodities, however, continue.
- b) M/s SNTA of Algeria has discontinued imports of tobacco from India until the settlement of their claim for recompense of insect infected portion of tobacco supplied by the Indian exporter in 1993-94.
- c) The details of India's exports of agro-commodities to various countries with respect to quantity and value are available in monthly / annual number of Foreign Trade Statistics of India published by Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics (DGC I&S), Calcutta, copies of which are available in the Parliament Library.
- d) & e) : The Tobacco Board had directed the exporter in July, 1996 to settle the matter amicably with the Algerian importer. A notice has also been issued to the Indian exporter on 30.6.2000 to report to the Board the action taken to settle the claim.