

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1035

ANSWERED ON:28.07.2000

PURCHASE OF TOBACCO BY STC

AMBATI BRAHMANAIAH;DUMPA MARY VIJAYAKUMARI;KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU;MUDRAGADA PADMANABHAM

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

- (a) whether STC has purchased tobacco from farmers in Andhra Pradesh and other states;
- (b) if so, the quantity purchased in the current year, till date, State-wise;
- (c) whether the purchase procedure of tobacco of STC is very slow;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (e) the further stocks of tobacco likely to be bought by STC during the remaining period of current year from each state;
- (f) whether new markets have been explored by STC;
- (g) if so, the details thereof;
- (h) whether there is good potential for barter trade of tobacco in Central Asia; and
- (i) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN)

- (a) & (b) In the 2000 auctions STC has purchased 5.60 million kgs of FC tobacco from all platforms in Andhra Pradesh till 25.7.2000.
- (c) & (d) STC buys only straight grades of tobacco.
- (e) STC's performance will continue as long as straight grades are available during the current season.
- (f) & (g) STC has explored the possibility of tobacco export to Jordan, Egypt and Vietnam.
- (h) & (i) Tobacco is not a major commodity for export to Central Asian countries from India and there is no proposal for using tobacco as an item of barter trade.