

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3948  
ANSWERED ON:19.12.2006  
COMMON TRADE MARK FOR BASMATI RICE  
Deora Shri Milind Murlu

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

- (a) whether India and Pakistan are likely to get a common trademark for Basmati Rice, as they agreed to jointly file a case to claim intellectual property rights(IPR) over it worldwide;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether a `Joint Study Group` in consultation with Pakistan on the Joint Registration of Basmati has been formed by India; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY(SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

- a) : No, Sir. India and Pakistan have not entered into any agreement to file a case to claim Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) for obtaining a common trademark for Basmati rice.
- b): Does not arise.
- c)&d): India has constituted a team for the `Joint Study Group` to study the issues relating to joint registration of Geographical Indication for Basmati Rice by India and Pakistan:
- i. Joint Secretary, Export Promotion(Agriculture) division, Department of Commerce
  - ii. Chairman, Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority(APEDA)
  - iii. Director, Trade Policy Division, Department of Commerce
  - iv. Director(Pak), Ministry of External Affairs
  - v. Deputy Secretary, Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion
  - vi. Deputy Secretary, Foreign Trade(South Asia) division, Department of Commerce