

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:829

ANSWERED ON:06.12.2004

LIFTING OF RESTRICTIONS ON ONION

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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has lifted all the restrictions on Onion to give the relief to farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether after lifting the restrictions on Onion can be exported by farmers freely;

(d) if so, whether this decision will not affect the domestic requirement; and

(e) the precautions proposed to be taken by the Government to meet the artificial shortage of Onion after implementation of this decision?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA)

(a) & (b): As per the current EXIM Policy, there is no ban on the export of onions. Government has also removed onion from the purview of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 with effect from 25.11.04 thereby lifting restrictions such as licensing, stocking and movement of onion.

(c): With the removal of quantitative restrictions, onions can be exported after obtaining No Objection Certificate (NOC) from the Government designated State Trading Enterprises (STEs).

(d) & (e): Availability and prices of onion are monitored regularly by the Inter-Ministerial Review Committee and the High Powered Price Monitoring Board. Remedial policy measures are initiated if necessary.