GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
(DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE)

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1160
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11th FEBRUARY, 2022

SUBSIDY ON SUGAR EXPORTS

1160. SMT. PHULO DEVI NETAM:

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

(a) whether India lost a disputed case in December, 2021 against a complaint filed by Brazil, Australia and Guatemala at World Trade Organisation (WTO) with regard to subsidies on sugar exports, wherein the latter alleged that India violated its obligations under Article 7.2(b) of the Agreement on Agriculture by providing export subsidies to sugarcane producers over the permitted amount, if so, Government's response thereon and the reasons for this allegation; and
(b) whether it is a fact that WTO trade policy review of India in 2021 revealed a non-declaration of agri-export subsidies for over eight years, if so, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

(a): Australia, Brazil and Guatemala filed a dispute challenging certain schemes of India for its sugar and sugarcane sector, before the World Trade Organisation (WTO). Accordingly, a dispute panel was established in WTO, which circulated its report on 14 December 2021. India has appealed against the panel report in the WTO on the grounds that the panel findings are unreasoned, undermines logic and rationale and not supported by the WTO rules.

(b): Department of Commerce submits the notifications to WTO after carrying out due diligence on the information collected from various sources. Export subsidy notification requires detailed consultation with relevant stakeholders, both at the Central and State levels.

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