

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1485
TO BE ANSWERED ON 15/12/2023

FREE TRADE AGREEMENTS

1485. SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM:

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

- (a) the number of countries with whom India have Free Trade Agreement (FTA);
- (b) whether it is a fact that FTAs have resulted in uninterrupted import of agricultural produces from foreign countries with lesser prices than domestic produces, without the burden of import duty;
- (c) whether this has resulted in huge financial crisis for Indian farmers as their produces are not getting enough prices in the market; and
- (d) the action taken by Government to help these farmers?

ANSWER

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

(a) India has signed 13 Free Trade Agreements with its trading partners.

(b) to (d) Allowing market access to agriculture products under the FTAs are calibrated considering all relevant factors, including the domestic sensitivities, production, consumption levels and the impact on the livelihood of farmers, and accordingly, in the existing FTAs, a large number of agriculture commodities are kept outside the preferential arrangement. Further, wherever required, Government of India comes out with suitable interventions such as Minimum Import Price to protect the domestic agriculture production.
