

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FINANCE
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2078

TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 29th JULY, 2016

Shravana 7, 1938 (Saka)

PRODUCTION OF OPIUM SEEDS

2078. SHRI KUNWAR SARVESH KUMAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be please to state:

- the details of import of opium seeds and related products for the last three years country-wise;
- the details of foreign exchange amount spent for this import;
- whether the Government allows our farmers to cultivate opium with proper legal framework and to prevent any illegal diversion in the market; and
- if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefore?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE
(SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)

(a) & (b) :-

Import details of Poppy seeds for Financial Years 2013-14 to 2015-16

S.No.	Financial Year	Quantity (in Metric tons)	Country	Invoice Value (in USD currency)
1	2013-14	578.277	China	1731093
2		14230.108	Turkey	51427400
3		174	Czech Republic	757502
4	2014-15	1801	China	5918620
5		10035	Turkey	32702461
6		152	Czech Republic	514602
7	2015-16	2363	China	5913875
8		7056	Turkey	21669372
9		311.4	Czech Republic	777660

(c) & (d):-

Yes, Government allows farmers to cultivate opium with proper legal framework as per the provisions under NDPS Act/ Rules.

The control over cultivation of opium poppy is exercised by way of licensing of cultivators of opium poppy in notified tracts (as notified by the Central Government from time to time) as per General Conditions of licensing policy announced by Central Government every year. 100% measurement of poppy fields (to check area actually sown) is carried out by the officers of Central Bureau of Narcotics followed by test measurements by supervisory officers. After cultivators start collecting opium from plants, Jurisdictional officers carry out Preliminary Weighment on test check basis. Once entire opium is collected by farmers, its collection and purchase is done at Weighment Centers set up for the purpose. During the entire lancing period, the preventive staff is put on full alert with deployment of executive staff for checks on strategic and vulnerable routes, to prevent the diversion of opium produce from the fields to the illicit channels. Further system of Minimum Qualifying Yield (MQY) is in place to ensure that cultivator does not divert opium to illegal channel. If any cultivator is found to be indulging in diversion of opium, then appropriate action is taken against the offenders under the NDPS Act, 1985 apart from cancellation of his licence for opium cultivation
