

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1592**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 10<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY, 2021**

**FOODGRAINS STOCKED AT PORTS**

1592. DR. T. SUMATHY (a) THAMIZHACHI THANGAPANDIAN:

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE & INDUSTRY** (वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री) be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken any interest in releasing millions of tonnes of food grains, pulses, peas, etc. found stocked at various ports in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the status of quantity and value of food grains, pulses, peas, etc. stocked at various sea ports of the country, Port-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has taken any steps to notify and direct the concerned authorities at the respective sea ports to release the huge quantities of food grains, pulses, peas, etc. and ensure that they reach the hands of the poor through public distribution system before these perish by rotting; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the decision taken by the Government in this regard?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री हरदीप सिंह पुरी)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI)

- (a) to (d): The Government of India had notified certain changes in the import policy of peas and pulses in light of various developments in the sector. These Notifications were challenged in various High Courts. Based on ex -parte stay orders against the operations of these Notifications, certain importers brought in quantities of pulses in excess of the stipulations for the years 2017 -18, 2018 -19 and 2019 -20. The Government contested the cases before various High Courts and in order to obtain a common judgment, sought transfer of all cases filed before the various High Courts to the Supreme Court. The Hon'ble Supreme Court in its Judgment dated 26<sup>th</sup> August, 2020 upheld the notifications and the trade notices and rejected the challenge made by the importers and further directed that the imports, if any, made relying on interim order(s) would be held to be contrary to the notifications.

The disposal of peas and pulses stocked at various sea ports which have been imported by private importers in violation of the Foreign Trade Policy and notifications issued there under, will be in accordance with and subject to the Judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court and the relevant provisions of law.

A statement indicating port wise quantity of food grains, peas and pulses lying at various ports pending clearance by Customs Authorities is at Annexure - I.

Statement referred to in reply of part (a) and (b) of Lok Sabha unstarred question no. 1592 for answer on 10<sup>th</sup> February 2021

<b>Statement indicating quantity of food grains, peas and pulses lying at various ports pending clearance by Customs Authorities</b>			
<b>Sl. Nos.</b>	<b>Port</b>	<b>Items</b>	<b>Quantity in MTS</b>
1	Mundra & Pipava	Food grains etc	913
		Peas	108915
		Pulses	NIL
2	Chennai	Food grains	598
		Peas	8447
		Pulses	12968.307
3	Kolkata	Food grains	95.18
		Peas	1635.75
		Pulses	3746.84
4	Mumbai I	Food grains	NIL
		Peas	16815
		Pulses	NIL
5	Mumbai II	Food grains	NIL
		Peas	2650
		Pulses	93211.46
6	Cochin	Food grains	NIL
		Peas	596.76
		Pulses	NIL
7	Tutocorin	Food grains	NIL
		Peas	5846.78
		Pulses	3702.387
8	Vishakhapatnam	Food grains	NIL
		Peas	6479.329
		Pulses	NIL
		Total	<b>266620.8</b>

Source: Central Board of Indirect Taxes & Customs

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