

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

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 3
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18TH JULY, 2016

TRADE FACILITATION AGREEMENT OF WTO

***3. DR. P. VENUGOPAL:**
SHRI A. ARUNMOZHITHEVAN:

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

- (a) whether India has recently ratified the Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) of the World Trade Organization (WTO) and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to set up a National Committee on Trade Facilitation to domestically coordinate and implement WTO's Trade Facilitation Agreement which aims at easing customs norms to expedite global trade flows and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the ratification of TFA is likely to help in sharing world's best trade practices among the member countries and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether TFA is likely to cut costs of trade and the impact is likely to be greater than elimination of all remaining tariffs and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण) (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

a) to d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 3 FOR ANSWER ON 18TH JULY, 2016 REGARDING
“TRADE FACILITATION AGREEMENT OF WTO”**

- (a) India ratified the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) on goods on 22nd April, 2016;
- (b) Yes Sir, The Cabinet has already approved the constitution of National Committee on Trade Facilitation under the Chair of Cabinet Secretary. This Committee will facilitate the ease of doing trade, through effective cooperation between customs authorities and relevant stakeholders.
- (c) & (d): Through TFA, WTO Members are encouraged to share information on best practices in managing customs compliance. Trade Facilitation Agreement will lead to simplification of trade procedures and help promote cross-border trade, bring greater predictability to traders and reduce transaction costs.

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

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 10
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18TH JULY, 2016

IMPORT OF SECOND HAND ELECTRONIC ITEMS

***10. SHRI K. PARASURAMAN:**

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

- (a) the salient features of import policy for second hand electronic items in the country;
- (b) whether the Government has granted permission for import of second hand electronic items including cell phones, computers etc. into the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the total number of cases wherein permission was granted by the Government for import of second hand electronic items into the country during each of the last three years and the current year?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण) (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 10 FOR ANSWER ON 18TH JULY, 2016 REGARDING
“IMPORT OF SECOND HAND ELECTRONIC ITEMS ”**

(a) Import of second hand electronic items is governed by the import policy laid down in para 2.31 of Foreign Trade Policy (2015-20). As per para 2.31, inter alia, the following second hand capital goods are “Restricted” and importable only against an authorization:

- i. Personal computers/ laptops including their refurbished / re-conditioned spares;
- ii. Photocopier machines/ Digital multifunction Print & Copying Machines; and
- iii. Air conditioners.

Further, second hand/used consumer electronic goods are “Restricted” and importable only against an authorization

(b) to (d) Total number of cases wherein permissions were granted for import of second hand electronic items during the last three years and the current year are as under:

SI No.	Item details	No. of Cases	No. of item
2013-14			
1.	Signal front end equipment and VM 700 measurement equipment	1	2
2.	Refurbished hard disk drives(Desktop, laptop, servers etc.)	3	2,07,456
3.	Personal Computer	1	11
4.	Refurbished Computer parts	4	1,57,728
2014-15			
1.	Hardware & Software parts	1	16,065
2.	C4 Tablets	1	4
2015-16			
1.	Refurbished Computer parts	2	53,450
2016-17 (uptil June,2016)			
	Nil	NIL	NIL

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

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 13
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18TH JULY, 2016

IMPORT OF RUBBER AND RUBBER PRODUCTS

***13. PROF. K.V. THOMAS:**
SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN:

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

- (a) the total quantity and value of rubber and rubber products imported into the country during each of the last three years and the current year along with the import duty levied thereon during the said period;
- (b) whether the Government has slashed or decided to slash the import tariff for rubber and rubber products and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether this move is likely to affect the domestic rubber industry/rubber growers; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to protect the interests of rubber growers in the country?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण) (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

a) to d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 13 FOR ANSWER ON 18TH JULY, 2016 REGARDING
“IMPORT OF RUBBER AND RUBBER PRODUCTS”**

(a): Quantity and value of rubber and rubber products imported into the country during the last three years and current year is annexed. Year wise total value of import and import duty levied on Natural Rubber during the last three years and the current year are as under:

Year	Total value of import of rubber & rubber products (in US\$ millions)	Import duty levied	
		Dry forms of Natural Rubber (HS Codes 400121, 400122 and 400129)	Latex (HS 400110)
2013 – 14 April to Nov.	1872.05	20% or Rs.20 per Kg whichever is lower	Rs.49 per Kg if the duty amount per Kg calculated at the rate of 70% ad valorem is more than Rs.49 per Kg.
Dec. to March		20% or Rs.30 per Kg whichever is lower	
2014-15	2106.36	20% or Rs.30 per Kg whichever is lower	
2015-16 (From April)	2619.78	25% or Rs.30 per Kg whichever is lower	
2016-17 (April)	182.48		

(b) and (c): The import duty on Natural Rubber was raised during the above period and has not been slashed.

(d) Rubber Board implements the scheme “Sustainable and inclusive development of natural rubber sector” under the 12th Plan to support, inter-alia, the rubber producers and Self Help Groups (SHGs). SHGs are attached to Rubber Producers Societies (RPS) which are village level voluntary forums of small growers promoted by Rubber Board. The scheme includes planting subsidy @ Rs 25000/- per ha for new planting and replanting in traditional areas, Rs 35000/- in non-traditional areas and North East States. Besides this, assistance is given for productivity enhancement, Farmer Group Formation & Empowerment and Farm mechanization in traditional and non-traditional states. Similarly, in North Eastern States, support is given for block planting under Integrated village level rubber development, boundary protection and quality up-gradation etc.

Details of Import of Rubber and Rubber Products

(Value in US\$ Million)

Item Description	UNIT	2013-14		2014-15		2015-16		2016-17(April)	
		QTY	VAL	QTY	VAL	QTY	VAL	QTY	VAL
Pre vulcanized natural rubber latex	KGS	3804156	6.88	4939000	6.88	3287690	3.97	141480	0.13
Natural rubber latex not pre vulcanized	KGS	2712170	5.05	5639940	8.14	5051690	5.79	335001	0.29
Natural rubber in smoked sheets	KGS	131669976	340.80	137814512	272.51	99685610	153.88	4019268	5.24
Technically specified natural rubber (TSNR)	KGS	209294116	521.50	260141317	470.33	324217651	485.29	17207824	21.50
Natural rubber in heaves	KGS	100800	0.24	20000	0.04	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Natural rubber in pale crepe	KGS	17000	0.05	47700	0.11	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Natural rubber in estate brown crepe	KGS	460000	1.00	225000	0.42	90000	0.19	NIL	NIL
Other natural rubber non-latex	KGS	12203542	30.89	33297781	59.84	26042575	65.98	1125920	1.60
Balata gutta-percha etc. and similar natural gums	KGS	954	0.01	901	0.03	459	0.01	NIL	NIL
Latex (SBR/XSBR)	KGS	6941008	11.47	7725324	11.09	11454942	12.48	947130	0.99
Oil extended styrene butadiene rubber	KGS	30183039	59.97	27795383	55.75	31648708	42.84	2816256	3.46
Styrene butadiene rubber with styrene content of over 50 percent	KGS	5523266	11.27	2388597	5.88	1898674	2.71	291630	0.41
Styrene butadiene styrene oil bound copolymer	KGS	5321296	11.74	6298173	12.96	8870904	14.50	376778	0.56
Others synthetic rubber and practice derived from oils in "primary" forms/in pelts sheets etc.	KGS	196896538	395.59	185639455	360.81	127799759	180.52	8199193	10.64
Butadiene rubber	KGS	86200171	182.42	70470920	130.43	74645620	96.80	7652980	9.59
Isobutene-isoprene (butyl) rubber	KGS	49237579	168.42	50634904	134.90	56288206	95.68	3231286	4.14
Halo-isobutene-isoprene rubber	KGS	30644043	120.46	34264109	126.78	35793936	98.51	3803786	8.63
Latex, chloroprene rubber	KGS	267860	0.51	150231	0.50	94045	0.33	11250	0.03
Other chloroprene (chlorobutadiene) rubber (cr)	KGS	14440158	47.73	14024437	46.86	16269912	50.17	1183086	3.74
Acrylonitrile-butadiene rubber latex	KGS	399546	0.49	702771	0.94	507977	0.61	79440	0.08
Other acrylonitrile-butadiene rubber	KGS	29196061	74.55	26016232	72.27	51428791	67.45	2618575	4.17
Isoprene rubber	KGS	2929051	8.54	3454521	9.93	1958198	4.79	72420	0.16
Ethylene-propylene-non-conjugated	KGS	30346637	83.08	33348079	89.50	39370159	93.00	2854228	5.60
Latex	KGS	72553	0.96	189628	2.64	220374	2.82	16614	0.23
Chemically modified form of natural rubber including graft rubber	KGS	109000	0.43	150005	0.58	133500	0.56	140000	0.15

Other form of mixtures of natural rubber	KGS	1609674	4.00	1884640	3.62	2127703	3.54	97800	0.14
Otherrubber latex	KGS	3195694	7.27	2032198	5.68	1574076	4.16	155362	0.23
Factice (rubber substitute derived from oil)	KGS	1304562	4.21	868170	2.73	530444	1.94	45520	0.19
Tread rubber com,cushion com,cushion gum/ tread gum for resole/repair/retreadrubbertyre	KGS	168581	0.51	116573	0.30	95143	0.21	591	0.01
Synthetic rubber syntax,not nes.	KGS	5770291	23.62	4939964	23.33	6301755	23.85	426978	1.71
Reclaimed rubber in primary forms or in plates sheets or strip	KGS	1093749	0.87	689237	0.65	332154	0.19	NIL	NIL
Waste,Parings, Scrap Of Rubber(Besides Hard rubber) and powder 9 Granules obtained therefrom	KGS	109555616	8.69	217536239	17.98	317666234	24.14	30942363	2.18
Rubber compounded with carbon blacks/silica	KGS	10031334	36.01	10309307	34.66	10377745	28.26	1738913	3.39
Can sealing compound	KGS	287159	1.04	312327	1.16	306353	1.08	27170	0.09
Others	KGS	709834	1.92	522343	1.37	178388	1.10	6970	0.05
Hospital sheeting	KGS	219559	0.62	53884	0.12	13411	0.08	NIL	NIL
Other plates sheets and strip	KGS	10454021	14.08	11563874	17.74	11220390	14.05	813763	0.96
Granules of unvulcanizednatural/synthetic rubber compounded ready for vulcanization (excluding raw rubber)	KGS	10945	0.05	297568	0.87	323595	0.59	39989	0.02
Others compounded rubber un vulcanized in primary forms/in plates sheets/strips excl. Silica/can sealing/hospital sheeting	KGS	4943113	17.24	5615662	19.14	4651282	16.13	750823	1.51
Camel-black" stripsfor retreading rubbertyre	KGS	856	0.01	643	0.002	27179	0.10	NIL	NIL
Thread of un vulcanized Rubber,Not Covered elsewhere	KGS	2102	0.01	1165	0.004	343	0.001	530	0.002
Others forms and articles of un vulcanized rubber excl. Camel backstrips	KGS	2178655	2.29	2643896	2.19	3393183	1.80	61922	0.06
Thread of vulcanizedRubber, not covered elsewhere	KGS	1773618	5.46	2821808	8.08	4638988	11.80	384926	0.82
Cord of vulcanized Rubber, Not covered elsewhere	KGS	157004	0.08	9	0.00	18	0.001	6	0.0003
Other thread/cord of vulcanized rubber	KGS	929197	2.26	452437	1.20	516143	1.00	28824	0.10
Plates,sheetsstrip of micro-cellular rubber	KGS	178637	1.20	126740	0.59	167895	0.69	7518	0.05
Plates,sheets,strip of other cellular rubber	KGS	566499	2.24	865851	2.57	708899	3.11	22641	0.14
Block of micro-cellular rubber not of latex foam sponge used in manufacture of soles/heels/ combined for footwear	KGS	3066	0.03	3575	0.01	1422	0.02	314	0.01
Other form of cellular rubber	KGS	562598	1.21	410246	1.11	789131	1.35	12468	0.11

Plates,sheets,strips of non-cellular rubber used in manufacture of sole/heel/combined for foot wear	KGS	2047154	3.02	2012690	2.92	1784300	2.97	130983	0.26
Plates, sheets, strips of non-cellular rubber for resoling/repairing/retreading rubber tyres	KGS	4967	0.02	306	0.002	1475	0.003	NIL	NIL
Other form of Plates, sheets, strips of non-cellular rubber	KGS	831050	6.97	787743	7.36	859787	6.44	58956	0.45
Rubber sheets/resin rubber sheet for sole/heel of others form of non-cellular rubber	KGS	585961	2.31	610299	2.57	399714	1.97	13076	0.06
Block used in manufacture of sole/heel/combined for footwear of other non-cellular rubber	KGS	5005	0.01	14640	0.09	3203	0.02	26368	0.02
Latex foam sponge of other non-cellular rubber	KGS	79466	0.54	76324	0.54	82759	0.49	1461	0.01
Tread rubber/packing strip for resoling/repairing/retreading rubber tyres of other non-cellular rubber	KGS	23865	0.04	18650	0.03	1058	0.004	NIL	NIL
Other form of non/cellular rubber	KGS	1748964	5.81	1700164	5.65	1376586	4.93	100262	0.42
Tubes,pipes and hoses of vulcanizedrubber not reinforced/otherwise combined with other materials without fittings	KGS	2341855	14.51	2740157	16.33	2177559	12.57	117407	0.77
Tubes,pipes and hoses of vulcanizedrubber not reinforced/otherwise combined with other materials with fittings	KGS	669484	5.70	434592	3.48	345344	4.26	4905	0.09
Tubes,Pipes and Hoses of Vulcanized Rubber Reinforced/otherwise combined only with Metal Materials Without Fittings	KGS	2723185	12.66	3089975	15.20	3023185	12.89	305998	1.08
Tubes, Pipes and Hoses of Vulcanized Rubber Reinforced/Otherwise combined only with Metal With Fittings	KGS	815290	6.61	724679	8.22	534143	4.99	31029	0.31
Tubes, Pipes And Hoses Of Vulcanized Rubber Reinforced/Otherwise Combined only with Textile Materials Without Fittings	KGS	1648952	14.37	1827339	15.62	1897000	14.48	101675	0.81
Tubes, Pipes and Hoses of Vulcanized Rubber Reinforced/Otherwise Combined only with Textiles Materials With Fittings	KGS	1750235	9.92	1780868	11.16	2638613	16.08	156902	0.80
Tubes, Pipes and Hoses of Vulcanized Rubber Reinforced/Otherwise Combined with other Materials Without Fittings	KGS	5003791	27.13	3718923	21.81	2752435	19.90	108652	0.85
Tubes, Pipes and Hoses of Vulcanized Rubber Reinforced Otherwise combined with other Materials With Fittings	KGS	3262268	31.17	3880170	40.71	2753001	36.12	255048	3.84

Conveyor belts or belting reinforced only with metal where rubber compound content less than 25% by weight	KGS	9420	0.14	5996	0.16	7108	0.10	23	0.001
Conveyor belts or belting reinforced only with metal where rubber compound more than 25% by wt	KGS	1371100	6.87	608323	4.61	1266228	4.95	71423	0.23
Conveyor belts or belting reinforced with textile materials where rubber compound content less than 25% by weight	KGS	10300	0.12	5077	0.02	11055	0.06	1	0.0003
Conveyor belts or belting reinforced with textile materials where rubber compound content more than 25% by weight	KGS	3101378	5.89	2881886	5.71	3519399	6.80	263094	0.46
Other Conveyor belts or belting where rubber compound content less than 25% by weight	KGS	16936	0.10	5221	0.04	101675	0.11	221	0.00
Other Conveyor belts or belting where rubber compound more than 25% by wt.	KGS	1004014	4.16	612064	3.75	744859	4.70	30564	0.30
Endless Conveyor belts or belting of v-belt, v-ribbed of circumference between 180 cm and 240 cm where rubber compound less than 25% by weight	KGS	83034	0.63	88216	0.46	66194	0.45	851	0.004
Endless transmission belts of trapezoidal cross-section v-belt/v-ribbed of circumference between 180 cm and 240 cm where rubber compound more than 25% by weight	KGS	739660	6.46	428889	5.35	412383	4.87	37911	0.38
Endless transmission belts of trapezoidal cross-section of v-belt/other than v-ribbed of circumference between 60 cm and 180 cm where rubber compound less than 25% by	KGS	784	0.01	9103	0.03	860	0.01	NIL	NIL
Endless transmission belts of trapezoidal cross-section of v-belt/other than v-ribbed of circumference between 60 cm and 180 cm where rubber compound more than 25% by	KGS	443484	5.37	396584	3.89	302710	2.96	11585	0.16
Endless transmission belts of trapezoidal cross-section of v-belt/v-ribbed of circumference between 60 cm and 180 cm where rubber compound less than 25% by wt.	KGS	1925	0.04	589	0.01	81	0.002	11	0.0003
Endless transmission belts of trapezoidal cross-section of v-belt/v-ribbed of circumference between 60 cm and 180 cm where rubber compound more than 25% by wt.	KGS	258900	2.39	195710	2.44	180018	2.09	14117	0.18
Endless transmission belts of trapezoidal cross-section of V-Belt/Other than V-Ribbed of circumference between 180 cm And 240cm where rubber compound Less Than 25%	KGS	1329	0.02	50	0.00	82	0.003	NIL	NIL

Endless transmission belts of trapezoidal cross-section Of V-Belt Other Than V-Ribbed of ribbed of circumference 180 Cm And 240cm where rubber compound More Than 25%	KGS	66108	0.72	104646	1.38	74136	0.61	4062	0.05
Endless Synchronous Belts, Of A circumference between 60cm And 150cm where rubber compound Less Than 25% By Wt.	KGS	285	0.01	5482	0.10	4381	0.10	NIL	NIL
Endless Synchronous Belts, Of A circumference between 60cm And 150cm where rubber compound More Than 25% By Wt. W	KGS	255999	2.44	153674	2.13	116017	1.90	6636	0.14
Endless Synchronous Belts, Of A circumference between 150cm And 198cm Where Ruby where rubber compound Less Than 25% By	KGS	44	0.00	103	0.001	9	0.0001	NIL	NIL
Endless synchronous Belts, of A circumference between 150cm And 198cm where rubber compound More Than 25% By Wt.	KGS	22049	0.29	147957	0.49	57696	0.90	1132	0.03
Endless flat belts of vulcanized rubber where rubber compound less than 25% by wt.	KGS	1046070	2.69	1790527	3.70	1189308	2.14	3383	0.02
Plybelting of vulcanized rubber where rubber compound less than 25% by wt.	KGS	4045	0.05	4052	0.05	5501	0.04	NIL	NIL
Transmission belt/belting other than flat blt/ply blt where rubber compound less than 25% by wt.	KGS	395537	2.44	233534	1.51	387187	2.31	26158	0.17
Endless flat belt	KGS	15554	0.22	11129	0.15	4675	0.10	19	0.001
Ply belting of vulcanized rubber where rubber compound more than 25% by wt.	KGS	1603	0.04	1452	0.05	1236	0.03	0	0.0001
Transmission belt/belting other than flat blt/ply blt where rubber compound more than 25% by wt.	KGS	3440613	40.25	2810497	39.89	2986961	38.02	146049	2.46
Radials tyres used on motor cars (including station wagons and racing cars)	NOS	4048451	136.67	4208963	149.41	4617090	157.74	294120	10.35
Other tyres used on motor cars (including station wagons and racing cars).	NOS	1070695	47.47	1025655	46.62	934999	34.72	63068	2.57
Radials tyres used on buses/lorries	NOS	1219722	126.93	895105	124.79	1425678	194.95	107987	15.01
Other tyres used on buses/lorries	NOS	62028	6.64	54392	5.27	70850	4.01	1032	0.15
New pneumatic tyres of a kind used on aircraft	NOS	21246	21.84	23801	23.23	22342	20.06	1275	1.71
Tyres for motorcycles	NOS	771147	9.07	2232442	21.17	2549229	22.46	149846	1.13
Tyres for motor scooters	NOS	5526	0.06	24	0.00	32156	0.23	NIL	NIL

Tyres uses other than motorcycles/ scooters	NOS	14798	0.78	20837	0.75	246838	2.81	5184	0.05
Multicellular polyurethane(mcp) tubes tyre used on bicycles	NOS	13899	0.05	2095	0.02	11371	0.05	800	0.003
Other tyres used on bicycles	NOS	554688	1.39	619953	1.43	326171	0.77	18103	0.06
New pneumatictyres used on agriculture or forestry vehicles/machines having"hearing-bone" or similar tread.with rim size less than	NOS	34989	3.02	30153	2.62	22145	1.78	2138	0.15
New pneumatic tyres used on construction or industry vehicle/machine having"hearing- bone" or similar tread	NOS	477	2.94	429	0.31	995	3.22	NIL	NIL
New pneumatictyres used on construction or industrialvehicle/machine with rim size more than 61 cm having"herring-bone orsimilar	NOS	390	3.08	231	0.58	324	1.32	18	0.04
New pneumatictyres used for other vehicles/ machines having"hearing-bone" or similar tread	NOS	515	0.52	344	0.32	2624	1.29	118	0.01
Other kind of tyres used on agriculture or forest try vehicle/machines	NOS	1197	0.08	6417	0.40	734	0.02	4	0.0001
Other kind of tyres used on construction or industrial vehicle/machines with rim size less than 61 cm.	NOS	831	0.96	1735	1.28	2015	3.30	265	0.13
Other kind of tyres used on construction or industrial vehicles/machines with rim size more than 61 cm	NOS	1614	10.07	2519	10.01	3827	18.14	89	0.29
Otherpneumatictyres of rubber	NOS	49503	33.29	121506	36.46	111670	29.28	7018	2.02
Retreaded tyre used on motor cars(includingstation wagon/racing cars)	NOS	5100	0.13	9167	0.05	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Retreaded Tyre Used 0on Buses/Lorries	NOS	2	0.001	1	0.002	17	0.001	NIL	NIL
Retreaded tyre used on aircrafts	NOS	6523	3.31	3038	2.09	10502	4.68	737	0.48
Retreaded tyre used in vehicle other than two wheeler/motor car/bus/lorry/aircraft	NOS	418	0.02	101	0.02	3421	0.01	NIL	NIL
Used pneumatictyres for buses/lorries/earth moving equipment including light commercial vehicle	NOS	NIL	NIL	4839	0.09	1021	0.27	NIL	NIL
Used pneumatictyres for passenger auto vehicle including two/three wheeler and personal vehicles	NOS	235460	2.31	314625	3.43	80669	0.32	5113	0.03
Used pneumatic tyres for other vehicles.	NOS	9676	0.21	18592	0.21	418	0.004	NIL	NIL
Solid rubber tyres for motor vehicles	NOS	12	0.00	77	0.02	47	0.01	NIL	NIL
Solid rubber tyres for other vehicles	NOS	27486	0.84	5896	0.64	8479	0.80	39	0.01
Tyre with metallic framework	NOS	502	0.01	4474	0.03	43469	0.23	2798	0.01

Tyre flaps used in two/three wheeler motor vehicles	NOS	NIL	NIL	570	0.002	22085	0.20	NIL	NIL
Tyre flaps used in other vehicles	NOS	343352	2.40	570099	2.97	999290	4.08	52004	0.22
Tyre tread interchangeable	NOS	229950	0.53	190782	0.50	90780	0.61	2032	0.06
Other tyre flaps	NOS	1939	0.31	2254	0.18	13020	0.11	579	0.002
Inner tubes for motor cars	NOS	11487	0.11	1972	0.03	7019	0.08	33	0.001
Inner tubes for track and bus	NOS	1302154	23.65	470117	5.91	431345	4.74	13464	0.12
Inner tubes of rubber used on bicycles	NOS	269569	0.29	327820	0.32	273809	0.26	19016	0.02
Inner tubes for aircraft	NOS	784	0.06	418	0.03	590	0.03	NIL	NIL
Inner tubes for motor cycles	NOS	593530	0.89	2000937	2.69	2159127	2.59	129640	0.15
Inner tubes for off the road vehicle not elsewhere specified or included	NOS	208	0.01	1103	0.03	835	0.01	7582	0.10
Inner tubes used in rear tyres of tractors	NOS	20830	1.11	13042	0.26	10550	0.21	542	0.01
Inner tubes used in other than rear tyres of tractors	NOS	30562	0.29	18555	0.08	7354	0.05	NIL	NIL
Inner tubes used in tyres of cycle rickshaw/three wheeler powered rickshaws	NOS	23	0.00	2378	0.004	20	0.00002	NIL	NIL
Inner tubes used in other vehicles	NOS	32278	0.24	37492	0.30	82716	0.90	3847	0.09
Rubber contraceptives male(condoms)	NOS	5613962	0.66	2184657	0.78	11794520	0.75	1008000	0.04
Rubber contraceptives, female (diaphragms) e.g. Cervical caps	NOS	493938	0.19	540400	0.21	613452	0.32	NIL	NIL
Hot water bottles	NOS	6047996	1.85	1803377	1.28	1496387	1.00	103	0.0003
Ice bags	NOS	27992	0.02	59876	0.07	29227	0.03	88	0.0003
Feeding bottle nipple	NOS	32861	0.06	4476	0.01	55064	0.04	25176	0.01
Other articles of other hygienic and pharmaceuticals articles	NOS	128449274	7.95	46787067	3.27	95990900	4.75	4430191	0.24
Surgical Gloves, Mittens and Mitts	PRS	323577945	20.42	323548741	20.55	288377991	17.99	17887015	1.10
Other gloves, mittens and mitts	PRS	287649482	20.55	444694265	28.86	823567989	33.65	60538668	2.20
Rubber apron	PRS	157963	0.28	639183	0.26	1088282	0.38	100	0.01
Labels	NOS	2628447	0.40	2494336	0.32	2109388	0.13	56450	0.001
Industrial gloves	PRS	20786303	5.01	27796602	7.35	26961810	5.50	496185	0.34
Diving suits of vulcanized rubber	KGS	2341	0.06	5281	0.12	4912	0.09	279	0.01
Others article. of apparel and clothing accessories for all purposes excl. gloves/ apron and diving suits etc.	KGS	487588	2.11	125261	1.10	149335	1.32	22223	0.27
Other articles of cellular rubber	KGS	96081	0.70	106506	0.84	117959	0.74	6729	0.10
Floor coverings and mats	KGS	741598	3.77	801300	4.48	914117	5.17	82622	0.19

Erasers	KGS	335358	0.94	411062	1.22	483062	1.36	54720	0.12
Patches for puncture repair of self-vulcanizing rubber/a rubber lacking	KGS	225426	2.14	92743	1.22	98613	1.26	13530	0.11
Rubber ring(O-ring)	KGS	3587723	38.86	2697544	39.97	2209598	33.84	172193	3.46
Rubber seals(oil seals, etc)	KGS	5471035	63.46	4103200	61.96	3545968	61.67	202149	4.20
Gaskets	KGS	3723151	41.91	3310496	42.41	2358098	34.78	150625	2.31
Washers	KGS	566535	4.86	551223	4.05	226855	3.00	22324	0.28
Plugs	KGS	452653	3.86	352322	3.07	291194	2.63	16018	0.13
Other articles of gaskets washers and other seal	KGS	4226937	67.01	4209747	70.26	4208494	80.49	281221	6.05
Boat/dock fenders w/n inflatable	KGS	96284	1.28	90140	0.71	143430	1.04	2742	0.07
Air mattresses of inflatable articles	KGS	7291	0.07	5672	0.09	3478	0.06	3236	0.07
Other items of inflatable articles	KGS	538520	4.47	502256	3.57	1132030	6.06	32583	0.27
Rubber cots for textile industry	KGS	460676	4.26	421459	4.44	300439	3.56	15486	0.14
Rubber bands	KGS	186523	1.19	344329	1.96	336279	1.68	31695	0.13
Rubber thread	KGS	165367	0.59	205727	0.70	159589	0.48	13093	0.03
Rubber blankets	KGS	424512	7.28	445044	8.49	455548	8.01	19783	0.31
Rubber cushion	KGS	339871	2.63	118639	1.67	143942	1.41	16584	0.18
Rubber bush	KGS	677739	5.51	550576	5.78	725024	6.95	35010	0.36
Ear plug	KGS	63292	0.90	19828	0.41	14721	0.25	2847	0.07
Stoppers	KGS	1701952	31.14	1465826	32.29	1820599	42.65	127567	4.03
Others articles of vulcanized rubber excl. Mats/gaskets and other inflatable articles	KGS	19296336	194.76	16713438	197.92	16120273	203.35	982757	11.45
Pelts sheets rods and tubes etc. of ebonite and vulcanite	KGS	13821	0.17	12309	0.23	20311	0.24	283	0.01
Scrap waste and powder of hardened rubber (ebonite and vulcanite)	KGS	205580	0.28	161410	0.12	172517	0.13	515	0.001
Printers roller	KGS	26004	0.43	14283	0.23	20577	0.32	1494	0.03
Textile rollers	KGS	127	0.002	1046	0.02	13982	0.08	NIL	NIL
Type writers and cyclostyling rollers	KGS	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	60	0.001	NIL	NIL
Others	KGS	959999	5.49	1354972	3.89	2102877	2.93	118098	0.09

NOTE: Figures for 2015-16 and April 2016 is provisional.

KGS= Kilograms ;**NOS**= Numbers ; **PRS** = Pairs

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

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 20(H)
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18TH JULY, 2016

IMPACT OF BREXIT ON INDIA'S TRADE

***20(H). SHRI RAMDAS C. TADAS:**
SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN:

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

- (a) the total quantity and value of India's imports and exports with the European Union (EU) during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (b) whether the Government has conducted any study to assess the impact of Brexit on India's trade and investment/ trade agreements with EU and UK and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to revise the terms of trade agreements with EU in the said context and if so, the details thereof along with the other steps taken by the Government to ensure that India's trade with EU does not get affected; and
- (d) whether the exporters of agricultural products and garments are likely to be affected critically due to Brexit and if so, the remedial steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण) (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

a) to d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 20 (H) FOR ANSWER ON 18TH JULY, 2016 REGARDING
“IMPACT OF BREXIT ON INDIA'S TRADE”**

- a) The total value of India's imports and exports with the European Union (EU) during each of the last three years and the current year is as under:

Year	Imports (in US \$ Bn)	Exports (in US \$ Bn)
2013-14	49.95	51.64
2014-15	49.21	49.36
2015-16	43.53	44.60
2016-17(Apr-May)	6.66	7.39

The quantity of India's Imports and Exports with EU are measured in different units of quantity, which are not additive.

- b) No Madam.

- (c & d) At present, there is no bilateral trade agreement that India has with EU. Trade with EU member States and India is carried out bilaterally and not with EU as a block and the impact of Brexit on trade with India is expected to be minimal.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18TH JULY, 2016

IMPORT OF CHINESE PRODUCTS

3. SHRI P. NAGARAJAN:

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

- (a) the details of Chinese products imported into the country during the last three years and the current year;
- (b) whether the Government has taken any steps to ban imports from China in recent years; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण) (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

- (a) Imports from China during the last three years and the current year are as under:

(In US\$ million)

Year of import	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17 (April,2016)
Value of imports from China	51,034.62	60,413.17	61,702.36	3,552.14

The details of chapter wise imports from China can be accessed at <http://commerce.nic.in/eidb/default.asp>

- (b) &(c) Import of milk and milk products (including chocolates and chocolate products and candies/ confectionary/ food preparations with milk or milk solids as an ingredient) from China is prohibited since September 2008 and the prohibition will continue till 23.6.2017 or until further orders, whichever is earlier.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 7
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18TH JULY, 2016

WORKING VISA ISSUE IN WTO

7. SHRIMATI K. MARAGATHAM:

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

- (a) whether India has taken up the issue of the decision of the United States to impose higher fees and the numerical limits on work visas such as L-1 and H-1B in the World Trade Organisation;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the response received therefrom;
- (c) whether the Government has claimed that these and comparable measures imposed on the country are not in conformity with several provisions of the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) including those on movement on natural persons supplying services; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण) (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

- (a): Yes Madam.
- (b): India has taken up the matter in the Dispute Settlement Body of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) with respect to the following two measures by the US:
 - (i) Measures relating to fees for L-1 and H-1B non-immigrant visas;
 - (ii) Measures relating to numerical commitment for H-1B visas.Consultations with the US authorities on the above measures was held on 11-12 May, 2016 at the WTO, Geneva. The US side provided certain information with respect to the above measures and maintained that the measures are fully consistent with its WTO obligations.
- (c): Yes.
- (d): According to India, the US measures viz. Public Law 114-113 and Public Law 111-230 on non-immigrant visas such as H1B and L1 appear to:

- (i) be inconsistent with the terms, limitations and conditions specified by the United States in its Schedule of Specific Commitments under the GATS,
- (ii) accord to juridical persons of India having a commercial presence in the United States treatment that is less favourable than that accorded to juridical persons of the United States, as well as juridical persons of any other country, engaged in providing like services in sectors such as the Computer and Related Services sector, with respect to which the United States has taken commitments in its Schedule of Specific Commitments, and
- (iii) affect the movement of natural persons seeking to supply services in a manner that is inconsistent with the United States' commitments in its Schedule of Specific Commitments. These measures also appear to nullify or impair the benefits accruing to India directly and indirectly under the GATS.

The Government of India is of the view that these and comparable measures, (as well as any amendments, related measures, or implementing measures), taken by the United States are not in conformity with at least the following provisions of the GATS: Articles II, V:4, XVI, XVII, XX, and paragraphs 3 and 4 of the GATS Annex on Movement of Natural Persons Supplying Services. These measures also appear to be inconsistent with Articles III:3, IV:1 and VI:1 of the GATS.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 24
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18TH JULY, 2016

TEA EXPORTS

24. SHRIMATI VANAROJA R.:

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

- (a) whether it is true that the countries which have helped in boosting tea exports from India and which face intense competition from Kenya and Sri Lanka, are Russia, Iran and Pakistan and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether some key markets have been identified by the Government for spearheading India's tea export and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the export prices have been signed keeping in view the trend of declining tea prices and lower average realisation; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण) (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

- (a) to (d): Yes, Madam. Increase of tea exports from India were registered primarily in Russia, Iran and Pakistan along with other countries as per details in the following Table.

Sl. No.	Country	2015-16		2014-2015		Growth (%)	
		Quantity (M. Kgs)	Value (Rs. Crs.)	Qty (M.Kgs.)	Value (Rs. Crs)	Qty (M. Kgs.)	Value (Rs. Crs)
1	Iran	22.13	571.81	18.14	478.51	22	19.5
2	Russia	48.23	670.57	39.4	582.28	22.41	15.16
3	Pakistan	19.37	192.61	15.2	125.12	27.43	53.94

The five markets viz. Russia, Kazakhstan, USA, Iran and Egypt have been identified as potential markets for increasing Indian exports based on the parameters of their “Market attractiveness” and “Ability to serve”. In addition, China and Chile have also been added for sustained promotion. Decline in export price realizations for tea during 2015-16 as compared to 2014-15 is attributed to the factors of global over-supply situation and currency fluctuations (sharp devaluation) in some key markets like Russia, Kazakhstan, Egypt leading to purchase of cheaper teas.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 26
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18TH JULY, 2016

SHORTAGE OF LEGAL EXPERTS FOR WTO DISPUTES

26. SHRIMATI BUTTA RENUKA:

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

- (a) whether the availability of legal experts to effectively handle the growing number of complex disputes at World Trade Organisation (WTO) is less than the demand in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any study has been conducted so far in this regard and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps being taken by the Government to increase the legal professionals to deal with the disputes?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण) (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

- (a) to (d):** No Madam. Government of India has been able to make satisfactory submissions and effectively defend its disputes in the World Trade Organization (WTO) through departmental/in-house experts, private legal experts nurtured on international trade law over last few years within the country. Legal Professionals both from the Government Departments as well as the law firms empanelled are provided trainings by domestic as well as international experts through dedicated workshops/seminars, conferences and periodic meetings on relevant legal issues. Accordingly, need for a separate study is not felt at this moment.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 32(H)
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18TH JULY, 2016

FREE TRADE AGREEMENTS

32(H). DR. MANOJ RAJORIA:

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

- (a) the names of the countries with which India has signed Free and Preferential Trade Agreements during the last three years and the current year;
- (b) whether such agreements help to promote trade and investment in the country;
- (c) if so, whether any assessment has been made in this regard and if so, the details and the outcome thereof; and
- (d) the total quantity and value of trade made with these countries during each of the last three years and the current year, quantity and commodity-wise?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण) (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a) to (c) India has not entered into any new Free Trade Agreement (FTA) or Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA) during the last three years. However, India expanded the scope of the India-ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement in November, 2014 to cover both Services and Investment which got implemented on 1st July 2015. The Agreement on Investment aims to create a liberal, facilitative and competitive investment regime in the region among the participating countries to support and contribute to economic growth, development and regional integration. The agreement on Services provide business certainty to service providers from both India and ASEAN countries and is expected to strengthen the business and commercial relations between the two.

(d) Does not arise

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 33
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18TH JULY, 2016

REVIEW OF PAN-INDIA E-AUCTION FOR TEA

33. SHRIMATI KOTHAPALLI GEETHA:

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

- (a) whether the Government has reviewed rolling out of pan-India e-auction for tea with a view to streamline the process and ensure faster realisation and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether faster realisation of auction proceeds is likely to address the demand of the producers and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether such a decision is likely to lead to greater transparency in terms of buyers' bidding and settlement of payment; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण) (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a) to (d): Pan India Auction has been rolled out successfully by Tea Board on 23.6.2016 in all the registered auction centers across India with a view to streamline the process. The suggestions received from the industry stakeholders during the mock session have been taken into consideration. The faster realization of auction proceeds is expected to address the demand of the producers. Introduction of settlement banking system and routing of entire post auction payments through the auction system via the settlement bank is one of the important features added in the Pan India Auction process. This system will ensure transparency in the process and timely settlement of dues since banks act as a settlement agent between all the stakeholders' i.e. buyers, brokers, sellers and warehouses. During the post settlement process, the sellers/producers receive the payment within the scheduled period and there is no extension for buyers' prompt date.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 34
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18TH JULY, 2016

EXPORT POLICY FOR TEA

34. SHRI SIRAJUDDIN AJMAL:

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

- (a) the details of export policy of the Government for tea;
- (b) whether the Government has proposed any amendment in export policy of tea considering continuous rise in its prices in the domestic market; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof along with the remedial measures taken by the Government to ensure adequate supply of tea in the domestic market?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण) (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a): The Foreign Trade Policy (2015-20) provides for varying rewards for “bulk tea” and “Packed tea” segments separately (packages weighing less than 20 kg or packed teas enjoy a reward rate of 5% while packages weighing more than 20 kgs or bulk teas are entitled to a reward rate of only 3%) under Merchandise Export from India Scheme (MEIS). The interest subvention scheme of 3% for exporters have been re-introduced. Duty Drawback benefits stand at 1% of rebate of duty chargeable on any imported or excisable material used in the exported teas. The five markets viz. Russia, Kazakhstan, USA, Iran and Egypt have been identified as potential markets for increasing Indian exports based on the parameters of their “Market attractiveness” and “Ability to serve”. In addition, China and Chile have also been added for sustained promotion.

(b) & (c): While sustained export promotion is the thrust area in the new FTP 2015-20, our domestic market consumes approximately 90% of our total production. Out of total production of 1233 m. kg in 2015-16, an estimated 951 m. kg was consumed domestically, while around 233 m. kg was exported leaving a surplus of 49 m. kg of teas. Tea Board of India regularly participates in various major domestic events to promote single-origin teas amongst the discerning consumers. Advertisements about niceties of Indian teas in noted journals are also being resorted to on regular basis in order to create awareness.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 45
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18TH JULY, 2016

SETTING UP OF MULTI-PRODUCT SEZS IN TELANGANA

45. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY KOTHA:

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

- (a) the total number of existing Special Economic Zones (SEZs) in Telangana State at present;
- (b) whether there is only one single product SEZs in the State and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Telangana Government has requested the Government for establishment of Multi-Product SEZs in the State; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken by the Government on the said request of Telangana State?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण) (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a) to (b): At present, formal approval has been accorded for the setting up of 53 SEZs in the State of Telangana. Out of these, 44 SEZs have been notified and 26 SEZs are operational. All SEZs are sector specific SEZ and have been approved by the State.

(c) and (d): Special Economic Zones (SEZs) being set up under the SEZs Act, 2005 and SEZ Rule, 2006 are primarily private investment driven. No proposal has been received for setting up of Multi-product SEZ in the State of Telangana.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 55
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18TH JULY, 2016

PRODUCTION AND IMPORT OF NATURAL RUBBER

55. SHRI D.K. SURESH:
PROF. SAUGATA ROY:
SHRI KANWAR SINGH TANWAR:

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

- (a) the total production of natural rubber in the country during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (b) the total quantity of rubber imported into the country during the said period along with the steps taken to check its import from abroad;
- (c) whether the price of natural rubber has declined thereby affecting the domestic rubber producers/growers;
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the measures taken by the Government to help them; and
- (e) the total amount released so far for rubber growers from price stabilization fund?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण) (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

- (a) The production of Natural Rubber(NR) in the country during the last three years and current year is as under:

Year	Production (quantity in tonnes)
2013-14	774000
2014-15	645000
2015-16	562000
2016-17(April-May)	85000

- (b) The import of Natural Rubber (NR) in the country during the last three years and current year is as under:

Year	Import of NR (quantity in tonnes)
2013-14	360263
2014-15	442130
2015-16	458374
2016-17(April-May)	69995

The Government has increased the duty on import of dry rubber from “20% or Rs 30 per kg whichever is lower” to “25% or Rs. 30 per kg. whichever is lower” w.e.f 30.4.2015 in order to increase the cost of imported rubber and create demand for locally produced rubber. The Government has also reduced the period of utilization of imported dry rubber under advance licensing scheme from 18 months to 6 months. Director General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) has imposed port restriction on the import of natural rubber by restricting the port of entry to Chennai and NhavaSheva (Jawaharlal Nehru Port) since 20th January, 2016.

- (c) & (d) Price of benchmark RSS 4 grade NR in the domestic market which averaged Rs. 166.02 and Rs. 132.57 per kg. in 2013-14 and 2014-15 respectively, averaged Rs. 113.06 per kg. during 2015-16. The average monthly price of the grade was Rs. 133.75 per kg. in June, 2016.

In addition to measures taken to regulate import of NR, the Government has also devised market-linked Revenue Insurance Scheme for Plantation Crops (RISPC) for protecting the farmers of plantation crops, including rubber plantations, against losses arising from fluctuations in yield as well as prices. The scheme has been shared with the State Governments to meet their share of insurance premium.

- (e) Total amount released for rubber growers from Price Stabilisation Fund was Rs. 27.41 lakh.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 60 (H)
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18TH JULY, 2016

EXPORT OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

60 (H). SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA:

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

- (a) whether the agricultural produces of the country are exported;
- (b) if so, the details of wheat, rice, spices and vegetables exported during the last three years and the current year;
- (c) the total revenue earned from such exports during the said period;
- (d) whether the Government has received any complaints regarding nonpayment of remunerative prices to the farmers for their produces and some traders making huge profit out of such exports;
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken by the Government thereon; and
- (f) whether any corrective measure has been taken to provide benefit to the farmers in respect of the export and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण) (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a) Yes, madam.

(b&c) The details of exports of wheat, rice, spices and vegetables, during the last three years and the current year, are as under:

Quantity: Lakh MT; Value: US \$ Million

Commodity	2013-14		2014-15		2015-16 (P)		2016-17 (Apr-May) (P)	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
WHEAT	55.72	1,569.03	29.24	828.75	6.14	150.59	0.85	20.44
RICE -BASMATI	37.54	4,864.69	36.99	4,516.28	40.45	3,477.35	7.50	584.81
RICE (OTHER THAN BASMATI)	71.48	2,925.05	82.78	3,336.84	63.74	2,307.81	10.57	379.51
SPICES	8.97	2,497.22	9.26	2,430.35	8.21	2,502.52	1.72	484.66
FRESH VEGETABLES	22.92	886.12	20.61	763.24	18.72	727.80	4.22	102.50

Source: DGCI&S, (P) – Provisional

- (d) Department of Commerce has not received any such complaints.
- (e) Does not arise in view of (d) above.
- (f) The domestic prices of agricultural commodities depend on several factors such as demand and supply situation (both domestic and international), quality, price support operations etc. Thus, export is only one of the many factors which influence the prices realized by the farmers. However, wherever possible, the Government has taken steps to ensure that the farmers get remunerative prices for export oriented products. For instance, the Tobacco Board and the Spices Board have established e-auction platforms, for tobacco and cardamom respectively, where farmers are able to sell their produce through transparent, competitive bidding.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 78(H)
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18TH JULY, 2016

SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONES

78(H). SHRI KANWAR SINGH TANWAR:

SHRI K. ASHOK KUMAR

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

- (a) whether the Government has received proposals for setting up of Special Economic Zones (SEZs) in the country during the last three years and the current year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the proposals approved by the Government during the said period;
- (c) whether the Government has also approved any proposals for setting up of IT/ITES SEZs and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether a number of SEZs sanctioned by the Government have not started functioning and if so, the details of such SEZs, State/UT and location-wise along with the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to make these SEZs functional along with the time schedule fixed in this regard?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण) (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a) to (c): Yes, the proposals for setting up of Special Economic Zones (SEZs) are approved by the Board of Approval (BoA) on recommendations of the concerned State Government. Approval of SEZs is an on-going process as they are created under the provisions of the SEZs Act, 2005. During the last three years and current financial year, 29 proposals have been received. Out of these, 23 proposals have been approved for setting up of SEZs. Details of the proposals approved including IT/ITES SEZs are at **Annexure-I**.

(d) and (e): In addition to Seven Central Government Special Economic Zones (SEZs) and 11 State/Private Sector SEZs set-up prior to the enactment of the SEZ Act, 2005, approval has been accorded to 412 proposals. Out of which 204 SEZs are functional

and remaining 226 SEZs are non-functional as on date. States/UTs-wise details of functional/non-functional SEZs is at **Annexure-II**

Review of functioning of SEZs is an on-going process and on the basis of inputs/suggestions received from stakeholders on the policy and operational framework of the SEZ Scheme, Government from time to time takes necessary measures so as to facilitate speedy and effective implementation of SEZ Scheme. In order to boost SEZs, review meetings with the Development Commissioners of SEZs are held regularly. Besides, open house meeting with SEZ stakeholders and Road Shows have been organised in various parts of the State to give wide publicity of SEZs.

Annexure-I to the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 78 for 18th July, 2016

Proposals for setting up of SEZs approved by Board of Approval (BoA) during the last three years and current financial year (as on 22.06.2016)								
Sl. No.	Year-wise Sl. No.	Name of the developer	Location	State	Type of SEZ	Area Hectares	Status	Date of BOA
2013-14								
1	1	OPGS Power Gujarat Pvt.	Village Bhadreshwar, Taluka Mundra, District Kutch, Gujarat	GJ	Engineering	55.7537	Notified	BOA dated 30th August 2013
2	2	iGate Global Solutions Ltd.,	Plot No. IT-3, IT-4, Airoli Knowledge Park, TTC Industrial Area, MIDC, Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra	MH	Electronic Hardware & Software including ITES	14.17	Notified	BOA dated 30th August 2013
3	3	Kerala State IT Infrastructure Ltd. (KSITIL)	Muringur and Thekkumuri Villages, Mukundapuram Talu, Koratty Panchayath, Thrissur District, Kerala	KL	IT/ITES	7.4909	Notified	BOA dated 8th November 2013
2014-15								
4	1	Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Ltd. (APSEZL)	Mundra Taluka, District Kutch, Gujarat	GJ	Multi Product	1856.534	Notified	BOA dated 20th February, 2015
5	2	Infosys Limited	Sector -85, Noida, District Gautam Budh Nagar, Uttar Pradesh	UP	IT/ITES	11.161	Notified	BOA dated 20th February, 2015
2015-16								
6	1	Infosys Limited	Gokul Village, within the limits of Hobli, Hubli Taluk, District Dharward, Near Airport Hubli, Karnataka	KN	IT/ITES	17.422	Notified	BOA dated 19th May, 2015
7	2	HCL IT City Lucknow Private Limited	Sultanpur Road, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh	UP	IT/ITES	40.469	Notified	BoA dated 27th August, 2015
8	3	North Mumbai International Commodity Township Pvt. Ltd	Thane District, Maharashtra	MH	Free Trade Warehousing Zone (FTWZ)	60.7	In-principle approval	BoA dated 27th August, 2015

9	4	Loma IT Park, Developers Pvt. Ltd.	Ghansoli, Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra	MH	IT/ITES	6.5	Notified	BoA dated 27th August, 2015
10	5	Mantri Developers Private Limited	Ranga Reddy District, Telangana	TG	Electronic Hardware and Software including IT/ITES	1.0504	Notified	BoA dated 27th August, 2015
11	6	Aqua Space Developers Pvt. Ltd.	Ranga Reddy District, Telangana	TG	IT/ITES	1.85	Notified	BoA dated 27th August, 2015
12	7	Wardha Sakhar Karkhana Ltd.	District Wardha, Maharashtra	MH	Biotechnology including Bio-Plastics or other Bio based or Bio-degradable Environment Friendly Products, Pharmaceuticals and Chemical	86.15	in-principle approval	BoA dated 27th August, 2015
13	8	Cheyar SEZ Developers Pvt. Ltd.	SIPCOT Industrial Growth Centre, Bargur, Uthangarai and Pochampalli Taluk, Krishnagiri District, Tamil Nadu	TN	Footwear	59.3.98	Notified	BoA dated 9th October, 2015
14	9	ValueLabs Infra LLP	Kokapet Village, Rajender Nagar Mandal, Ranga Reddy District, Telangana	TG	IT/ITES	3.12	Formal Approval	BoA dated 30th December, 2015
15	10	GAR Corporation Private Limited	Sy. No. 107, Kokapet Village, Rajendranagar Mandal, Telangana	TG	IT/ITES	2.22	Formal Approval	30th December, 2015
16	11	Cognizant Technologies Services Private Limited	Nanakramguda village, Serilingampally Mandal, Ranga Reddy District, Telangana	TG	IT/ITES	2.5161	Formal Approval	23nd February, 2016
17	12	UP State Industrial Development Corporation (UPSIDC)	Moradabad, Uttar Pradesh	UP	Textile and broad banded product	50.763	Formal Approval	23nd February, 2016

18	13	UP State Industrial Development Corporation (UPSIDC)	Moradabad, Uttar Pradesh	UP	IT/ITES/Electronic Components & Hardware manufacturing	10.084	Formal Approval	23rd February, 2016
19	14	Saltire Developers Private Limited	Outer Ring Road, Rachanahalli Village, Nagavara, Bangalore, Karnataka	KN	IT/ITES	4.05	Formal Approval	23rd February, 2016
20	15	Amin Properties LLP	Pujanahalli Village, Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore, Karnataka	KN	IT/ITES	2.76	Formal Approval	23rd February, 2016
21	16	Infosys Limited	Plot No. I-3, IT City, Sector – 83, Alpha, SAS Nagar, Mohali, Punjab	PB	IT/ITES	20.234	Formal Approval	23rd February, 2016
22	17	Infosys Limited	Electronic City, Doddathogur Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore, Karnataka	KN	IT/ITES	4.063	Formal Approval	28th April, 2016
		2016-17						
23	1	Bagmane Developers Pvt. Ltd.	Outer Ring Road, Doddanekundi Circle, Marathalli Post, Bengaluru, Karnataka	KN	IT/ITES	1.34	Formal Approval	22nd June, 2016

Annexure-II to the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 78 for 18th July, 2016

States/UTs-wise details of functional/non-functional SEZs		
States/UTs	Functional SEZs (Central Govt. + State Govt./Pvt. SEZs + notified SEZs under the SEZ Act, 2005)	Non-functional SEZs
Andhra Pradesh	19	11
Chandigarh	2	0
Chhattisgarh	1	1
Delhi	0	2
Goa	0	7
Gujarat	18	16
Haryana	7	16
Jharkhand	0	1
Karnataka	25	36
Kerala	16	14
Madhya Pradesh	2	8
Maharashtra	25	35
Manipur	0	1
Nagaland	0	2
Odisha	3	4
Puducherry	0	1
Punjab	2	3
Rajasthan	4	6
Tamil Nadu	36	17
Telangana	26	27
Uttar Pradesh	11	15
West Bengal	7	3
GRAND TOTAL	204	226

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 83
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18TH JULY, 2016

REVIEW OF OVERSEAS TRADE OPENING AGREEMENT

83. SHRIMATI K. MARAGATHAM:

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

- (a) whether the Indian industries have sought a thorough review of overseas trade opening agreements like free trade agreements and preferential trade agreements in the wake of country's declining exports;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether India has signed many trade pacts, more for geopolitical reasons rather than commercial reasons; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the decision taken on such trade pacts now?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण) (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. The Indian stakeholders have sought a review of the India-ASEAN Free Trade Agreement and India Korea Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA). Moreover, they have also sought the expansion of the existing preferential trade agreements (PTAs) with Chile and Mercosur. The review (including expansion) process under these agreements has commenced.

(c) & (d): The finalization of any trade agreement is a comprehensive process that looks at all aspects including commercial and geopolitical interests. The finalization of bilateral agreements is preceded by the establishment of a Joint Study Group (JSG) which explores the feasibility of the agreement.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 84
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18TH JULY, 2016

TEA EXPORTS TO EGYPT

84. DR. P. VENUGOPAL:

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

- (a) whether an Indian delegation has recently visited Egypt in a bid to perk up the country's sagging tea exports to the African country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the sustained promotional work by the Tea Board of India alongside efforts mounted by tea industry and trade has borne fruit on export front; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण) (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. A delegation comprising of Deputy Chairman & Director of Tea Promotion, Tea Board India and tea exporters visited Egypt during March 19-23, 2016 in order to boost exports to Egypt and generate goodwill thereon. The delegation held a number of meetings with the Minister of Supply and Domestic Trade (MSIT), Egypt, officials of Ministry of Foreign Trade & Industry, Egypt, Chambers of Commerce in Cairo & Alexandria, Government Officials and Executives of Government-owned companies, and private tea industries in Egypt. In addition, buyer-seller meets were also organized in Cairo and in Alexandria.

(c) & (d): The sustained promotional activities revolving around participation in international trade fairs, exchange of trade delegations vis-a-vis key export markets and buyer-seller meets along with the Industry has paid substantial dividends. Details of increase in exports during 2015-16 as compared to 2014-15 is given in the following Table:

Year	All India		
	Qty (Million kg)	Value (In Rs.)	Value (in Million US\$)
2015 -16	232.92	4493.10	686.67
2014-15	199.08	3823.64	625.55
Growth (%)	17.00	17.51	9.77

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 90
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18TH JULY, 2016

BAN ON AGRO PRODUCTS FROM INDIA

90. SHRI S.P. MUDDAHANUME GOWDA:
SHRI B.V. NAIK

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

- (a) the names of the countries and the types of agro products banned for import from India during the last three years along with the reasons for banning agro products;
- (b) the crop-wise details of time span of the said ban and the names of the agro products on which the ban still continues;
- (c) the details of the losses incurred by Indian farmers due to ban;
- (d) whether the Government has taken any action to lift the said ban on agro products from India; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with the extent to which these actions have been beneficial?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण) (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

- (a) During the last three years, following bans were imposed on Indian agricultural products:
 - i. The European Union (EU) imposed a temporary ban on import of four vegetables (Brinjal, Snake Gourd, Bitter Gourd and Taro Leaves) and mangoes from India w.e.f. 1st May, 2014 as export consignments were intercepted with harmful organisms (pests) such as thrips.
 - ii. Saudi Arabia imposed a ban on import of green chillies from India w.e.f. 30th May 2014 due to detection of agrochemicals i.e. pesticides above the maximum residue limits.
 - iii. Vietnam imposed a temporary restriction on import of groundnuts from India w.e.f. 6th April 2015 due to detection of Caryedon Serratus Olivier (living pest).

- (b) The crop-wise details of time span of the said ban and the names of the agro products on which the ban still continues are as under:

Products	Country	Date of ban imposed	Date of ban removed
Mangoes	European Union	01/05/2014	05/02/2015
Vegetables	European Union	01/05/2014	Still exists
Green Chilly	Saudi Arabia	30/05/2014	07/01/2016
Peanut	Vietnam	06/04/2015	18/01/2016

- (c) It is not feasible to quantify the losses suffered by the farmers due to a such bans as alternative avenues for disposal of the produce, both domestic and international, are always available.
- (d & (e) An EU Food & Veterinary Office (FVO) Mission visited India on September 2-12, 2014 to assess and audit the export certification for export of vegetables from India to the EU. FVO Mission expressed their satisfaction over the system put in place by India for export of Mangoes and hence the ban on import of Mangoes was subsequently lifted. The Agricultural & Processed Food Export Development Authority (APEDA), an autonomous organisation under the Department of Commerce, has taken up the issue of ban on exports of four vegetables with EU authorities through Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (MoA&FW). MOA&FW has sent a detailed action plan to address the concerns raised by EU and requested them to lift the ban. This issue has also been flagged by the Department of Commerce in various bilateral meetings between India and EU from time to time.

A delegation comprising of representatives of Ministry of Agriculture, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia visited India from 23.10.2015 to 30.10.2015. The delegation visited APEDA approved packhouses, laboratory, National Referral Laboratory at Pune, and green chillies farms at Nashik.

The National Plant Protection Organisation (NPPO) under the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare has introduced a mandatory Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for export of groundnuts to Vietnam. A delegation from Vietnam visited India in December 2015 to conduct onsite inspections.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 93
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18TH JULY, 2016

FIELD OFFICES OF RUBBER BOARD

93. SHRI ANTO ANTONY:

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

- (a) the salient features of the field offices of the Rubber Board functioning in various parts of the country;
- (b) whether the Government has any record regarding the number of these field offices of the Rubber Board and if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has recently decided to reduce the number of field offices of the Rubber Board and if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor; and
- (d) whether the Government has received any complaint in this regard and if so, the details thereof along with the action taken by the Government thereon?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण) (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

- (a) &(b) Field Offices of Rubber Board are base level extension offices, stationed at remote villages of rubber growing regions of the county manned by a single Field Officer. The main functions of Field Officers are advisory and extension services to growers on all aspects of rubber cultivation, harvesting and post-harvesting operations, inspection of rubber plantations for recommending planting subsidy under Rubber Plantation Development & Extension Scheme of Rubber Board, guidance to voluntary forums of small growers viz., Rubber Producers Societies (RPS) in the region, collection of statistics on rubber production and related aspects etc. State-wise number of Field Offices are as under:

Sl No	State	No. of Field Offices
1.	Tamil Nadu	2
2.	Kerala	111
3.	Karnataka	8
4.	Goa	1
5.	Andhra Pradesh	1
6.	Odisha	3

7.	West Bengal	1
8.	Assam	14
9.	Tripura	12
10.	Manipur	1
11.	Meghalaya	4
12.	Nagaland	3
13.	Arunachal Pradesh	3
14.	Mizoram	1
	Total	165

(c)&(d) The number of Field offices of Rubber Board has not been reduced. However, the 26 Field Offices in Kerala has been shifted to adjacent Field/Regional offices falling within an average distance of 15 km. There is no reduction in the number of Field Officers, who will discharge their duties from the relocated positions. The jurisdiction of the Field Officers of the shifted Field Offices being the same, there is no compromise in the services/facilities available to rubber growers from these offices. This has been done in view of austerity measures in Rubber Board to reduce establishment cost. No complaint in this regard has been received. However, a reference has been received from Hon'ble MP in the matter.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 108
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18TH JULY, 2016

AMENDMENTS TO MAI SCHEME

108. SHRIMATI RAKSHATAI KHADSE:

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

- (a) whether Government proposes to amend the existing Market Access Initiative (MAI) scheme to support marketing for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) exporters;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government proposes to set up export development fund to enhance the lower global trade growth; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the time by which it is likely to be set up?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण) (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

- (a) No Madam. There is no proposal to amend the Market Access Initiative Scheme.
- (b) Does not arise, in view of the (a) above.
- (c) No Madam. There is no such proposal.
- (d) Does not arise.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 120
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18TH JULY, 2016

ESTABLISHMENT OF TRADE CENTRE IN HYDERABAD

120. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY KOTHA:

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

- whether the Ministry has received any request from the State of Telangana for establishment of Trade Centre in Hyderabad and if so, the details thereof;
- whether any steps have been taken by the Government for establishment of the said Trade Centre;
- if so, the details thereof along with the quantum of funds requested for this Trade Centre; and
- the quantum of funds released/being released for this purpose?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण) (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a), (b), (c) & (d): The State Government of Telangana had requested the Department of Commerce to approve their proposal to take up an EXIM Trade Facilitation Centre at Hyderabad, amongst other projects, under the State Component of the ASIDE scheme. The Department of Commerce had conveyed their approval in March 2015. However the ASIDE scheme was subsequently delinked from support of the Centre from the year 2015-16 onwards, due to enhanced devolution of funds to the states, based on the recommendations of 14th Finance Commission. The State Governments have thereafter been requested to fund such projects in the pipeline from their increased devolution of funds.

Also, a reference was received from Government of Telangana in February 2016 for setting up of Hyderabad Trade Centre (HTC) in collaboration with India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO), on the lines of Chennai Trade Centre (CTC) of Tamil Nadu Trade Promotion Organisation (TNTPO) and Bengaluru Trade Centre (BTC) of Karnataka Trade Promotion Organisation (KTPO). ITPO has however decided not to make any financial investments in future joint collaborations after TNTPO and KTPO and its contribution would be confined only to the extent of technical consultancy. No formal proposal has however been received from the State of Telangana in the matter.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 122
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18TH JULY, 2016

IMPACT OF AIFTA ON INDIA'S RUBBER TRADE

122. SHRI Y.S. AVINASH REDDY:

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

- (a) whether the ASEAN-India Free Trade Agreement (AIFTA) have been negatively affecting India's balance of trade in rubber and rubber products;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the remedial measures taken or being taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण) (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

- (a) No Ma'am. All tariff lines on natural rubber are under the Exclusion List of ASEAN-India FTA. The tariff lines on synthetic rubber are under Sensitive Track. As far as rubber products are concerned, the balance of trade during 5 years (2004-05 to 2008-09) in the Pre-AIFTA period, showed an average favourable balance of USD 36.8 million. During the 5 years (2009-10 to 2013-14) in the Post-AIFTA period, balance of trade of finished products increased to an average of USD 69.8 million.
- (b) Question does not arise;
- (c) Question does not arise.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 124
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18TH JULY, 2016

TRADE AMONG BRICS NATIONS

124. SHRI P. KUMAR:

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

- (a) whether the BRICS nations have signed pacts to enhance trade in their own local currencies;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any joint working group has been set up to thrash out all outstanding trade issues and if so, details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has received any feedback from importers/ exporters on such pacts; and
- (e) if so, details thereof along with the action taken by the Government on the basis of the feedback received?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण) (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a) & (b): The five development banks of BRICS Interbank Cooperation Mechanism signed an umbrella non-binding “Master Agreement on Extending Credit Facility in Local Currencies” during the 4th BRICS Summit held in March, 2012 in New Delhi. For India, the Interbank Cooperation Mechanism was signed by the Export Import Bank of India which is the nominated Member. Moreover, there are references to the use of national currencies in trade in the declaration of the 7th BRICS Summit held on 8-9 July, 2015 in Ufa, Russia.

(c) to (e) The BRICS Contact Group on Economic and Trade Issues (CGETI) is the forum which deals with trade issues between BRICS countries. The Contact Group was established at the 1st Economic and Trade Ministers' Meeting of BRICS held on April 13, 2011, in Sanya, China. The 11th meeting of the BRICS CGETI was held in New Delhi on 12th April, 2016 with the discussions centred around a number of areas of mutual interest for BRICS countries such as Macro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME), non-tariff measures (NTMs), Electronic Commerce, Intellectual Property, Services etc.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 139
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18TH JULY, 2016

IMPORT OF ONIONS

139. SHRI RAJU SHETTY

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

- (a) whether the Government has been importing onions through the State Trading Corporations and the Public Enterprises Companies over a period of time; and
- (b) if so, the State-wise details of the total amount spent on such imports during each of the last three years and the current year?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण) (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a)&(b) Yes, Madam. During the last three years, the Government imported a quantity of 1987.38 MT of onions through MMTTC, a Public Sector Enterprise under the administrative control of Department of Commerce, during 2015-16 under the Price Stabilisation Fund (PSF), at a total import cost ex-godown of Rs.11,44,87,035.66. In view of its perishable nature and absence of firm requirement from state governments/other state agencies, the imported onions were disposed off by MMTTC through auction.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 140
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18TH JULY, 2016

DECLINE IN EXPORTS

140. SHRI P. KUMAR:
SHRI GOPAL SHETTY:
ADV. NARENDRA KESHAV SAWAIKAR:
SHRI G. HARI:
SHRI ANTO ANTONY:
SHRI SHIVKUMAR UDASI:

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

- (a) the total quantity and value of exports of major commodities from the country during the last three years and the current year along with the revenue generated therefrom during the said period;
- (b) whether India's export in major sectors have declined sharply during the said period resulting in increase in trade deficit and if so, the details thereof, yearwise and sector-wise along with the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has received suggestions from various Export Promotion Boards/Federation of Indian Export Organization (FIEO) to boost India's exports and if so, the details thereof along with the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (d) whether the FIEO has also demanded investment linked benefit for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises sector and if so, the response of the Government thereto; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to boost exports and reduce the trade deficit?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण) (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a) & (b) The total value of exports and growth rates by commodity groups for the last three years and current year are given in Table 1. As the quantities are not additive due to different units of measurement of commodities, the total quantity is not compiled. India's trade deficit has decreased from USD (-) 137.68 billion in 2014-15 to USD (-) 118.63 billion in 2015-16. It has improved from USD (-) 21.73 billion of the first two months of last year (2015-16) to USD (-) 10.59 billion for the same period of the current year (2016-17).

Table 1: India's Merchandise Exports-Commodity Group-wise for last 3 years and current year*Values in US\$ Millions*

Commodity Groups	Export							
	2013-14	2014-15	% Growth	2015-16	% Growth	2015-16 (Apr-May)	2016-17 (Apr-May) *	% Growth
1. Plantation	1,625.05	1,502.88	-7.52	1,562.07	3.94	254.58	249.47	-2.01
2. Agri & Allied Products	32,953.57	30,147.31	-8.52	24,249.01	-19.56	4,189.54	3,904.42	-6.81
3. Marine Products	5,016.46	5,510.49	9.85	4,761.96	-13.58	655.65	693.37	5.75
4. Ores & Minerals	3,583.86	2,410.18	-32.75	1,974.65	-18.07	309.89	419.61	35.41
5. Leather & Leather Manufactures	5,722.54	6,195.21	8.26	5,553.68	-10.36	916.12	842.72	-8.01
6. Gems & Jewellery	41,389.07	41,266.07	-0.3	39,441.48	-4.42	6,185.78	7,281.67	17.72
7. Sports Goods	236.45	274.5	16.09	227.3	-17.2	37.14	34.12	-8.15
8. Chemicals & Related Products	30,793.62	31,731.22	3.04	32,138.49	1.28	5,425.71	5,136.29	-5.33
9. Plastic & Rubber Articles	6,860.02	6,615.17	-3.57	6,404.93	-3.18	974.52	1,039.16	6.63
10. Articles Of Stone, Plaster, Cement, Asbestos, Mica etc.	3,600.58	4,042.51	12.27	3,860.01	-4.51	698.19	670.5	-3.97
11. Paper & Related Products	2,099.81	2,180.66	3.85	2,402.43	10.17	422.17	431.43	2.19
12. Base Metals	22,365.63	24,742.75	10.63	18,604.20	-24.81	3,448.12	2,505.16	-27.35
13. Optical, Medical & Surgical Instruments	1,562.96	1,686.34	7.89	1,631.58	-3.25	260.52	281.4	8.01
14. Electronics Items	7,634.85	6,009.07	-21.29	5,694.30	-5.24	888.12	931.5	4.88
15. Machinery	17,569.36	19,705.35	12.16	18,993.52	-3.61	3,108.32	3,184.86	2.46
16. Office Equipments	30.89	54.77	77.31	89.73	63.84	13.26	14.77	11.38
17. Transport Equipments	22,164.67	26,636.37	20.17	21,286.35	-20.09	4,507.30	4,595.18	1.95
18. Project Goods	47.35	36.59	-22.73	24.96	-31.79	4.91	13.89	182.91
19. Textiles & Allied Products	36,967.56	37,140.74	0.47	36,254.18	-2.39	6,056.38	5,663.85	-6.48
20. Petroleum Crude & Products	63,177.46	56,794.15	-10.1	30,423.48	-46.43	5,351.19	4,113.62	-23.13
21. Others	9,003.52	5,656.13	-37.18	6,425.36	13.6	913.27	917.1	0.42
Total	314415.7	310352	-1.29	262031.2	-15.57	44608.9	42924.1	-3.8

*Source: DGCI&S * Provisional*

(c) & (d) Government has received various suggestions from FIEO/ Export Promotion Councils to boost exports. These suggestions include those related to aggressive marketing, Interest Equalization for Merchant Exporters, Grant of Export Benefit at the time of Exports without waiting for Realization, withdrawal of Landing Certificate for MEIS, Combined Applications for Different Norms, Grant of TED Refund on Receipt of even Part Payment and Investment linked benefit for MSMEs. Suggestions received by Government from time to time are processed for suitable action as found appropriate. Government has already done away with lending certificate under the MEIS scheme, as requested above.

- (e) Details of key steps taken by Government for promoting exports are as follows:
- i. The New Foreign Trade Policy (2015-20) was announced on 1st April, 2015 with a focus on supporting both manufacturing and services exports and improving the 'Ease of Doing Business'. The FTP introduced two new schemes, namely, 'Merchandise Exports from India Scheme' (MEIS) for incentivizing export of specified goods to specified markets and 'Service Exports from India Scheme' (SEIS) for promoting export of notified services from India, by consolidating earlier schemes.
 - ii. In the light of the major challenges being faced by Indian exporters in the backdrop of the global economic slowdown, the envisaged revenue outgo under MEIS was increased from Rs. 18000 Crore to Rs. 21000 Crore in October 2015 with accompanying enhancement in benefits on certain products and inclusion of certain additional items. On 04.05.2016, the Government has extended the market coverage to all countries in respect of 2787 lines. Hence Landing Certificates shall not be required under MEIS w.e.f 04.05.2016. This step has been taken as part of 'Ease of Doing Business' and reduction of Transaction Cost of the exporters. Accordingly, revenue foregone under the scheme has been revised from Rs.21000 Crores per annum to Rs.22,000 Crores per annum.
 - iii. The Government is implementing the Niryat Bandhu Scheme with an objective to reach out to the new and potential exporters including exporters from Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and mentor them through orientation programmes, counselling sessions, individual facilitation, etc., on various aspects of foreign trade for being able to get into international trade and boost exports from India.
 - iv. By way of trade facilitation and enhancing the ease of doing business Government reduced the number of mandatory documents required for exports and imports to three each, which is comparable with international benchmarks. The trade community can file applications online for various trade related schemes. Online payment of application fees through Credit/Debit cards and electronic funds transfer from 53 Banks has been put in place.
 - v. Further, the Government continues to provide the facility of access to duty free raw materials and capital goods for exports through schemes like Advance Authorisation, Duty Free Import Authorization (DFIA), Export Promotion Capital Goods (EPCG) and drawback / refund of duties.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 144
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18TH JULY, 2016

POOR QUALITY IMPORTS

144. SHRIMATI VANAROJA R.:

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

- (a) whether increasing tariff or imposing quantitative restrictions alone is likely to completely prevent poor quality and undesirable imports into the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the other steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard;
- (c) whether the Government is considering to set a standard for import of goods; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण) (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a) to (d) Increase of tariff or imposition of Quantitative Restriction are measures to regulate the volume of imports of particular commodities. Technical regulations, also called mandatory standards, play a much more important role globally in checking import of poor quality goods.

WTO Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) empowers member countries to mandate standards on goods with the objective of maintaining national security requirements; prevention of deceptive practices; protection of environment, animal or plant life or health; human health or safety. Similarly, WTO Agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Measures empowers member countries to mandate standards on goods with the objective of protecting human, animal or plant life or health.

Various ministries and agencies in Government of India like Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), Ministry of Steel, Department of Electronics & Information Technology, etc. are pursuing these objectives and have mandated standards in the recent past. Any standard

mandated by the national authority is equally applicable to domestically manufactured products as well as imported products.

Also, the Department of Commerce has been organizing National Standards Conclaves to sensitize stakeholders/ministries to meet the objectives of the standards like protection of human health or safety, animal or plant life or health, the prevention of deceptive practices, national security requirements or the environment with a view to protect the interests of consumers. The central government is also pursuing the agenda with the state governments and last year, five regional standards conclaves were organized to generate awareness across the country.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 161
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18TH JULY, 2016

BTIA BETWEEN INDIA AND EU

161. SHRI A. ARUNMOZHITHEVAN:

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

- (a) whether obtaining greater access to the market for services in the European Union is key for the progress of the Board based Trade and Investment Agreement (BTIA) between the European Union and India;
- (b) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard;
- (c) whether the Government has made progress in the trade deal during the 13th EU-India summit in Brussels; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण) (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

- a) Yes Madam.
- b) Sixteen rounds of negotiations have been held so far for India-European Union Broad-based Bilateral Trade and Investment Agreement (India-EU BTIA). Recently two rounds of stocktaking meetings have also been held on 18th January, 2016 (in New Delhi) and 22nd February, 2016 (in Brussels).
- c) & d) During the 13th India-EU Summit held in Brussels on 30th March, 2016, where India was led by the Prime Minister himself, the fact that both sides had re-engaged in discussions with a view to considering how to further the India-EU BTIA negotiations was welcomed.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 163
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18TH JULY, 2016

IMPORT OF NUTMEG

163. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN:

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

- (a) the total quantity and value of nutmeg imported into the country during the last three years and the current year;
- (b) whether the import of nutmeg has adversely affected the market and local price of nutmeg;
- (c) if so, the details thereof along with the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (d) the present stand of the Government on the import of nutmeg?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण) (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a): Import of nutmeg, quantity wise and value wise, during the last three years and current year (April to May, 2016) is as under:

Year	Qty (Ton)	Value (Million USD)
2013-14	1225.30	9.58
2014-15	397.65	3.55
2015-16	493.85	3.02
2016-17 (April-May)	8.00	0.04

Note: Figures for 2015-16 and 2016-17 (April to May) are provisional.

(b) & (c): In recent years the import of nutmeg has been significantly below the 2013-14 level, which indicates diminishing impact on the domestic market.

(d): Import policy for nutmeg is 'free'.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 173
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18TH JULY, 2016

**ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN ANDHRA
PRADESH**

173. DR. KAMBHAMPATI HARIBABU:

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

- (a) whether there are any proposals to establish Indian Institute of Plantation Management/Indian Institute of Packaging/ Indian Institute of Foreign Trade in Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken thereon; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण) (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a) to (c): The Board of Governors of the Indian Institute of Plantation Management (IIPM) have recommended the proposal for opening a Centre of IIPM at Vijayawada in their 44th Board meeting held on 11.01.2016. Accordingly, a proposal has been submitted by IIPM to the Government of Andhra Pradesh for establishment the Centre of IIPM at Kondapalli in Vijayawada. Government of India has received the proposals for setting up of a Centre of Indian Institute of Packaging (IIP) and a Centre of Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT) at Kakinada in Andhra Pradesh. The establishment of an Institute requires extensive consultations and co-ordination between different Union and State Government Departments/Bodies for which a specific time line cannot be given.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 183
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18TH JULY, 2016

ASSISTANCE TO CARDAMOM FARMERS

183. SHRI R. GOPALAKRISHNAN:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that spices farmers especially the cardamom farmers in South India suffer crop loss due to deficient rainfall and high temperature;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to help them?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण) (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a) & (b): In view of the prevalence of long dry spell in cardamom growing areas of South India, Spices Board had constituted a team to assess its impact on the cardamom production. The study was done in the Idukki District of Kerala, as it produces 80% of small cardamom production of the country. As per the report of the team, the prolonged dry spell with high temperature prevailed from December 2015 to first fortnight of May 2016 and this period is the crucial period for development of tillers and panicle initiation and development in cardamom. The team estimated that on an average about 10% plant loss and 20-25% crop loss may occur in Idukki District of Kerala during 2016-17.

(c): Government through the Spices Board is implementing different programmes/schemes and providing financial assistance to the farmers for the development of cardamom. Apart from the regular schemes implemented by Spices Board for the development of cardamom, the Spices Board is also focusing on providing support to farmers through cardamom replanting scheme wherever plant loss is noticed, developing water resources through storage structures like farm ponds, wells, rain water harvesting devices, assistance for purchase of irrigation equipments and conducting the training/campaigns to educate the farmers on mulching/shade maintenance and irrigation etc.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 185
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18TH JULY, 2016

TRADE IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

185. SHRI JANARDAN SINGH SIGRIWAL:

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

- (a) whether the India's share in the global trade of agricultural products is very low and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (b) the quantum of agricultural products and other edible items imported as well as exported during each of the last three years and the current year, item and country-wise along with foreign exchange earned thereon;
- (c) whether there has been any instance of dumping of edible items, other essential items in the country and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the strategy being adopted to reduce the dependency on imported foodgrains;
- (d) whether the Government has conducted any study to assess the impact of the import of edible items on their prices in the domestic market and if so, the details thereof along with the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (e) whether the export of agricultural commodities has also affected the domestic supply and demand scenario and if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken to ensure proper domestic supply of these products and create a balance between their demand and supply in the domestic market?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण) (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

- (a) As per World Trade Organization (WTO) International Trade Statistics, 2015 (based on trade in 2014), India's share in world exports of agricultural products was 2.5%. India ranks 7th among the leading exporters of agricultural products. Keeping in view the fact that India has a large domestic consumption base for agricultural products, India's share in the world agriculture trade cannot be termed as low.

- (b) The commodity wise details of India's major export and import of agricultural products (Top 10 products) are at **Annexure-I**. Country-wise details of export and import of most important agricultural products (top 5 countries for each of the top 5 commodities) are at **Annexure-II**.
- (c) Edible oils and pulses, which are in short supply in India, account for the bulk of India's import of agricultural products. The Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare is making concerted efforts to increase production of these products through National Food Security Mission (NFSM) and National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP). The Government has not come across any instances of dumping of essential agricultural commodities into India
- (d) No, Madam. The domestic prices of agricultural commodities depend on several factors such as demand and supply situation, quality, price support operations etc. Ascertaining the effect of a single factor i.e. imports on the domestic prices of agricultural commodities may not be feasible.
- (e) While framing the export policy for the agricultural products, the Government takes several factors into consideration such as availability of surplus over and above the requirement of buffer stock including strategic reserve, if any, concerns of food security, diplomatic/humanitarian considerations, international demand and supply situation, quality standards in the importing countries, varieties traded and price competitiveness, need to balance between remunerative prices to the growers and availability of agricultural products to common man at affordable prices etc.

ANNEXURE – I**Commodity-wise export of agricultural products (top 10 products)**Quantity in Thousands; Value in US \$ Million
(P) – Provisional

Sl. No.	Commodity	Unit	2013-14		2014-15		2015-16 (P)		2016-17 (Apr-May) (P)	
			Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
1	MARINE PRODUCTS	KGS	1,000,818.64	5,016.46	1,073,965.69	5,510.49	976,246.82	4,761.96	135,721.31	693.37
2	BUFFALO MEAT	TON	1,365.64	4,350.23	1,475.54	4,781.18	1,314.16	4,068.66	189.00	545.71
3	RICE -BASMATI	TON	3,754.10	4,864.69	3,698.93	4,516.28	4,044.83	3,477.35	749.54	584.81
4	SPICES	KGS	896,565.40	2,497.22	926,020.95	2,430.35	820,658.97	2,502.52	172,290.28	484.66
5	RICE (OTHER THAN BASMATI)	TON	7,148.47	2,925.05	8,278.23	3,336.84	6,374.36	2,307.81	1,057.32	379.51
6	COTTON RAW INCLD. WASTE		1,947.70	3,637.53	1,142.53	1,900.19	1,346.50	1,937.87	115.70	162.62
7	SUGAR	TON	2,477.64	1,177.03	1,955.19	871.41	3,825.51	1,482.68	594.10	257.84
8	COFFEE	KGS	253,902.13	798.80	221,396.66	814.02	255,717.11	783.45	61,061.83	157.93
9	CASHEW	TON	120.74	842.30	134.57	909.26	103.13	768.07	12.22	100.48
10	FRESH VEGETABLES	TON	2,291.75	886.12	2,061.00	763.24	1,872.02	727.80	421.51	102.50
	OTHER PRODUCTS			15,870.20		12,872.92		9,334.75		1,482.29
	Total			42,865.63		38,706.18		32,152.92		4,951.72

Source: DGC&S

Commodity-wise import of agricultural products (top 10 products)Quantity in Thousands; Value in US \$ Million
(P) – Provisional

Sl. No.	Commodity	Unit	2013-14		2014-15		2015-16 (P)		2016-17 (Apr-May) (P)	
			Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
1	VEGETABLE OILS	TON	7,942.90	7,249.85	12,731.60	10,621.48	15,638.94	10,485.18	2,097.19	1,558.39
2	PULSES	TON	3,177.89	1,828.16	4,584.85	2,786.11	5,796.51	3,900.78	704.42	472.89
3	FRESH FRUITS	TON	769.14	1,273.44	866.15	1,565.20	835.19	1,685.74	182.97	231.43
4	CASHEW	TON	776.33	773.78	933.19	1,087.16	961.67	1,339.34	70.90	107.56
5	SPICES	KGS	155,577.43	571.36	163,094.90	717.78	190,681.32	820.60	32,753.60	130.45
6	NATURAL RUBBER	TON	360.27	906.41	442.13	818.29	458.38	715.12	57.59	75.18
7	SUGAR	TON	880.96	392.18	1,538.64	601.17	1,943.13	612.26	55.54	21.71
8	ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES		NA	341.26	NA	408.47	NA	443.12	NA	79.43
9	COTTON RAW INCLD. WASTE		180.97	394.47	259.43	508.80	231.59	393.63	47.76	84.33
10	MISC PROCESSED ITEMS		NA	244.47	NA	292.05	NA	274.47	NA	41.81
	OTHER PRODUCTS			1,001.68		1,156.85		1,277.46		163.83
	Total			14,977.06		20,563.36		21,947.70		2,967.01

Source: DGC&S

NA: Not Available

Annexure – II**Country wise exports of top 5 items in India's agricultural export basket:****MARINE PRODUCTS**

Quantity: Thousand KGS; value in US \$ million

Country	2013-14		2014-15		2015-16 (P)		2016-17 (Apr-May) (P)	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
U S A	110,017.41	1,267.84	276,383.01	1,457.50	227,736.09	1,326.85	20,190.10	183.36
VIETNAM	256,745.21	963.49	128,804.74	1,102.91	147,223.04	895.05	37,041.84	173.73
JAPAN	70,290.71	406.94	78,605.23	447.27	76,320.33	404.66	11,578.31	49.96
SPAIN	43,972.69	166.27	53,732.63	205.36	57,043.27	184.29	6,488.77	22.45
BELGIUM	25,037.22	214.59	50,471.95	202.99	49,297.23	172.79	2,052.34	14.06
OTHERS	494,755.40	1,997.33	485,968.13	2,094.46	418,626.86	1,778.32	58,369.95	249.81
Total	1,000,818.64	5,016.46	1,073,965.69	5,510.49	976,246.82	4,761.96	135,721.31	693.37

BUFFALO MEAT

Quantity: Thousand TON; Value in US \$ million

Country	2013-14		2014-15		2015-16 (P)		2016-17 (Apr-May) (P)	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
VIETNAM	524.18	1,795.50	633.35	2,152.86	605.10	1,992.64	68.33	212.50
MALAYSIA	121.71	388.66	130.88	422.94	135.94	410.02	28.05	79.92
EGYPT	107.82	338.21	128.08	422.34	115.32	357.72	20.57	61.85
SAUDI ARAB	74.60	247.10	73.82	259.01	64.65	216.23	12.04	39.00
IRAQ	29.99	87.10	23.60	66.33	42.99	117.36	9.16	20.58
OTHERS	507.34	1,493.66	485.81	1,457.70	350.16	974.69	50.85	131.86
Total	1,365.64	4,350.23	1,475.54	4,781.18	1,314.16	4,068.66	189.00	545.71

RICE -BASMATI

Quantity: Thousand TON; Value in US \$ million

Country	2013-14		2014-15		2015-16 (P)		2016-17 (Apr-May) (P)	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
SAUDI ARAB	826.12	1,108.84	966.30	1,187.91	948.85	842.22	176.98	136.72
IRAN	1,440.45	1,834.51	935.57	1,108.50	695.31	571.19	204.70	158.79
U ARAB EMTS	147.90	196.51	277.89	314.38	612.15	475.18	92.59	69.74
IRAQ	219.61	271.13	235.45	259.13	418.31	340.97	50.37	33.94
KUWAIT	175.54	247.94	166.47	250.53	180.73	211.68	30.54	28.50
OTHERS	944.48	1,205.76	1,117.25	1,395.83	1,189.48	1,036.11	194.36	157.12
Total	3,754.10	4,864.69	3,698.93	4,516.28	4,044.83	3,477.35	749.54	584.81

SPICES

Quantity: Thousand KGS; Value in US \$ million

Country	2013-14		2014-15		2015-16 (P)		2016-17 (Apr-May) (P)	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
U S A	68,643.28	391.52	66,323.81	409.80	65,022.80	426.52	11,551.17	66.31
VIETNAM	98,114.82	175.38	122,863.19	210.17	104,192.43	219.20	27,877.99	67.09
CHINA	47,689.39	384.41	25,574.61	245.27	22,277.64	171.49	3,981.70	42.47
THAILAND	47,228.24	76.97	50,184.78	85.97	63,537.14	135.96	7,497.77	17.07
MALAYSIA	57,731.93	96.66	56,860.07	103.59	65,124.54	117.15	13,504.02	25.32
OTHERS	577,157.74	1,372.28	604,214.49	1,375.55	500,504.42	1,432.20	107,877.63	266.40
Total	896,565.40	2,497.22	926,020.95	2,430.35	820,658.97	2,502.52	172,290.28	484.66

Source: DGCI&S; (P) - Provisional

Annexure – II**RICE (OTHER THAN BASMATI)**

Quantity: Thousand TON; Value US \$ million

Country	2013-14		2014-15		2015-16 (P)		2016-17 (Apr-May) (P)	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
SENEGAL	651.98	195.73	765.02	226.03	905.97	244.13	123.04	32.39
BENIN	1,166.85	485.17	598.57	247.12	623.35	215.53	162.3	55.23
NEPAL	406.16	119.8	630.49	216.76	486.66	173.54	90.74	33.55
COTE D'IVOIRE	261.5	98.67	259.69	97.93	457.42	152.56	31.77	9.8
GUINEA	221.77	87.66	397.72	152.88	395.98	133.03	137.4	45.22
OTHERS	4,440.21	1,938.02	5,626.74	2,396.12	3,504.98	1,389.02	512.07	203.32
Total	7,148.47	2,925.05	8,278.23	3,336.84	6,374.36	2,307.81	1,057.32	379.51

Country-wise import of top 5 items in India's agricultural import basket:**VEGETABLE OILS**

Quantity: Thousand TON; Value of US \$ million

Country	2013-14		2014-15		2015-16 (P)		2016-17 (Apr-May) (P)	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
INDONESIA	3,544.42	3,014.00	4,930.88	3,887.70	5,988.52	3,631.50	676.00	483.08
MALAYSIA	1,665.85	1,424.51	3,294.71	2,587.90	3,839.59	2,295.99	502.17	346.51
ARGENTINA	1,091.68	1,135.70	1,738.59	1,582.68	3,024.23	2,246.20	539.47	412.52
UKRAINE	1,074.64	1,110.45	1,728.14	1,578.16	1,489.84	1,274.49	185.53	158.22
BRAZIL	225.74	228.17	440.11	408.19	760.55	570.35	105.88	81.51
OTHERS	340.57	337.02	599.17	576.85	536.21	466.65	88.14	76.55
Total	7,942.90	7,249.85	12,731.60	10,621.48	15,638.94	10,485.18	2,097.19	1,558.39

PULSES

Quantity: Thousand TON; Value in US \$ million

Country	2013-14		2014-15		2015-16 (P)		2016-17 (Apr-May) (P)	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
CANADA	1,504.72	758.69	2,195.56	1,074.57	2,510.81	1,415.54	222.93	99.13
MYANMAR	667.15	459.39	931.33	803.00	721.98	817.45	129.31	164.04
AUSTRALIA	342.21	189.46	332.66	188.41	912.19	624.24	25.98	21.41
RUSSIA	215.62	90.33	236.89	103.16	503.49	217.57	101.47	40.38
U S A	195.85	112.44	312.23	168.38	259.08	151.89	41.11	20.90
OTHERS	252.34	217.85	576.18	448.59	888.96	674.09	183.62	127.03
Total	3,177.89	1,828.16	4,584.85	2,786.11	5,796.51	3,900.78	704.42	472.89

Source: DGCI&S; (P) - Provisional

Annexure – II

FRESH FRUITS

Quantity: Thousand TON; Value in US \$ million

Country	2013-14		2014-15		2015-16 (P)		2016-17 (Apr-May) (P)	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
U S A	129.84	479.41	136.15	551.63	180.97	725	29.15	87.76
AFGHANISTAN	26.11	120.39	35.51	164.06	31.22	164.05	2.79	14.61
AUSTRALIA	22.25	106.03	19.65	102.81	25.26	158.47	1.49	6.12
IRAN	31.24	67.62	42	104.42	44.53	106.5	7.53	10.63
PAKISTAN	132.58	100.15	135.73	106.74	115.85	89.26	12.79	9.76
OTHERS	427.12	399.84	497.11	535.54	437.36	442.46	129.22	102.55
TOTAL	769.14	1,273.44	866.15	1,565.20	835.19	1,685.74	182.97	231.43

CASHEW

Quantity: Thousand TON; Value in US \$ million

Country	2013-14		2014-15		2015-16 (P)		2016-17 (Apr-May) (P)	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
COTE D'IVOIRE	209.27	176.95	341.64	354.09	338.20	423.48	32.07	46.97
GUINEA BISSAU	114.70	109.44	123.83	157.92	122.90	197.50	-	-
TANZANIA	112.16	149.37	140.35	203.74	116.57	191.49	11.11	17.66
BENIN	103.98	102.21	125.51	142.04	146.05	190.57	0.44	0.63
GHANA	96.34	88.21	64.27	69.44	68.82	88.34	11.12	17.17
OTHERS	139.88	147.60	137.59	159.93	169.13	247.96	16.16	25.13
Total	776.33	773.78	933.19	1,087.16	961.67	1,339.34	70.90	107.56

SPICES

Quantity: Thousand KGS; Value in US \$ million

Country	2013-14		2014-15		2015-16 (P)		2016-17 (Apr-May) (P)	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
VIETNAM	25,553.89	64.75	39,746.17	154.04	29,121.21	120.57	5,746.17	27.31
SRI LANKA	15,405.15	97.62	9,538.61	91.46	13,143.91	116.37	812.25	6.9
MADAGASCAR	4,109.53	33.64	6,888.14	67.32	12,288.29	109.53	1,964.12	17.35
AFGHANISTAN	2,614.62	58.15	3,161.81	71.48	3,454.01	92.83	610.75	14.22
INDONESIA	6,634.22	28.59	11,625.08	47.6	19,151.95	72.54	1,878.22	6.53
OTHERS	101,260.02	288.61	92,135.09	285.88	113,521.95	308.76	21,742.09	58.14
Total	155,577.43	571.36	163,094.90	717.78	190,681.32	820.60	32,753.60	130.45

Source: DGCI&S; (P) - Provisional

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 192
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18TH JULY, 2016

NATIONAL COMMITTEE ON TRADE FACILITATION

192. SHRI G. HARI:

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

- (a) whether the National Committee on Trade Facilitation is expected to institutionalise the coordination mechanism in such a manner that more than 35 departments, private players and State Governments who have international border are on the same page so far as trade facilitation is concerned;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has launched a dashboard on exim analytics to provide easier access to data for meaningful analysis of the country's trade performance and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the dashboard uses the merchandise trade data being provided by the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण) (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

- (a) The Trade Facilitation Agreement of WTO provides for constitution of the National Committee on Trade Facilitation (NCTF) by member countries for domestic coordination and implementation of the provisions of this Agreement. Government of India on 17th February, 2016 approved the constitution of the NCTF under the Chairmanship of the Cabinet Secretary.

(b) It is proposed to include all stakeholder Ministries/Departments/Agencies, private player and concerned State Governments as members of the committee.

In order to optimize productivity and effectiveness, a 3-tiered structure consisting of National Committee, Steering Committee and Ad-hoc Working has been envisaged for the Committee.

(c) The 'Exim Analytics' dashboard was launched on 3rd May 2016 to provide free and easy access of trade related Export-Import information to the general public. The portal will facilitate the general public to have an accurate perspective on the trade performance of India providing value of export/import in US Dollar (USD) or in Indian Rupee (INR) in 2, 4, 6 and 8 digits of Harmonized System of Nomenclature (HSN). The dashboard also provides details / trends of Exports/Imports across commodities and regions and Balance of Trade. The Balance of Trade (BOT) can be analysed over time periods for different Regions, Countries and Ports.

(d) & (e) Yes, the dashboard is based on the merchandise trade data compiled by the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics. The data for analysis is presented as a month's aggregate at the level of country, commodity, port etc.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 196
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18TH JULY, 2016

RESTRUCTURING OF COFFEE BOARD

196. KUMARI SHOBHA KARANDLAJE:
SHRI PRATHAP SIMHA:

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

- (a) whether the functioning of the Coffee Board has been adversely affected due to inordinate delay in its reconstitution and non-filling of the vacancies such as the important posts of Chairman, Secretary, etc.;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has any plan to restructure the Coffee Board and fill up these vacancies and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether the Government has already taken steps to reconstitute the Coffee Board and to fill the vacancies and if so, the details thereof indicating the period of delay that has occurred in each case?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण) (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

- (a) to (d) No, Madam. The Coffee Board has been re-constituted vide Gazette notification no. S.O.3413(E) dated 15.12.2015. There is no proposal for restructuring the Coffee Board. All the senior positions of the Coffee Board, including Secretary are at present filled with regular appointees. Presently the position of chairman is being manned by a senior officer working under Department of Commerce as additional charge.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 215
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18TH JULY, 2016

TEA PRODUCTION IN ASSAM

215. SHRI BADRUDDIN AJMAL:

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

- (a) whether the tea production in Assam is becoming challenging due to climate change and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether longer dry periods and change in rainfall pattern in the North East have increased tea production cost;
- (c) if so, whether the Government has taken any initiative to help tea garden workers/farmers and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) whether the Government proposes to take any initiative to balance the international market price with Indian Tea Traders and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण) (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a) & (b): The tea industry is facing problems due to climate change resulting in erratic distribution of rainfall with extended periods of droughts followed by heavy rainfall. Irrigation has become imperative and pest and disease incidence is on the rise. This has become a challenge in tea production in Assam. Accordingly, the tea garden owners have to incur higher costs for irrigation and pest/disease control.

(c): In order to help the growers to mitigate the increased cost, Tea Board under the Tea Development & Promotion Scheme for the XII Plan Period, is providing financial assistance for

creation of Irrigation facilities. During the year 2015-16 Rs. 6.23 crores has been extended towards financial assistance for an area of 10,924.15 ha in Assam for creation of Irrigation facilities. During the year 2016-17, till June 2016, a sum of Rs.1.21 crores has been extended towards financial assistance for Irrigation for an area of 1,534.31 ha in Assam.

(d): In order to help the Indian Tea Traders maintain the supply-demand equilibrium and earn remunerative price for the stakeholders of the Tea Industry, the government has added thrust for increasing exports volume, doubling unit price realization, augmenting export of value-added teas and reinforcing “Brand India” Image in the overseas markets.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 224
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18TH JULY, 2016

EXEMPTION TO EXPORTERS FROM SUBMITTING LANDING
CERTIFICATES

224. SHRI A. ARUNMOZHITHEVAN:

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

- (a) whether the exporters have been facing difficulties in obtaining landing certificate from Shipping Lines and Agents;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the Government has exempted exporters from submitting landing certificates of goods to avail duty benefits given under the reward scheme;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether this step has been taken as part of ease of doing business and reduction of transaction cost of the exporters and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण) (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a) to (e): Obtaining landing certificates involves cost and time for exporters. The Government has modified the Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS) for exports made with effect from 04.05.2016, as a result of which landing certificate is no longer required for such exports.

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