RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 97
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29TH JULY, 2015

CONCESSIONS TO DIFFERENT SECTORS
OF ECONOMY

*97. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

a) whether any financial concessions have been given to various sectors of industry and commerce in the form of tax, duty reductions, etc. during the last three years, if so, what is the total amount involved;
b) what improvement has occurred in production, export, etc., because of this and what has been the growth in the economy; and
c) whether there is any recent fall in production in manufacturing and other fields in spite of these promotional measures?

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

a) to c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.
a) As per the information provided by the Ministry of Finance, Customs/Central Excise duty reductions are given to various sectors of the industry in order to incentivize domestic value addition, job creation through revival of growth and investment. The amount involved on account of these concessions is not quantifiable.

Regarding direct taxes, tax incentives in the form of Investment linked deductions, profit linked deductions, accelerated depreciation, investment allowance, weighted deduction etc have been given under the Income-tax Act to various sectors of industry and commerce in the country. Revenue Impact of direct tax incentives (Corporate, Firms/AOPs/BOIs taxpayers) during the financial year 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15 has been to the tune of Rs. 74628.9 crore. Rs. 62275.3 crore and Rs 67539.6 crore (estimate) respectively.

b) & c) Growth estimates of the economy as reflected in the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and also Index of Industrial Production (IIP) for production estimates and export performance of India is given in the table below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>2012-13</th>
<th>2013-14</th>
<th>2014-15</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GDP(% growth)</td>
<td>5.1</td>
<td>6.9</td>
<td>7.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IIP(% growth)</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>-0.1</td>
<td>2.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exports(% growth)</td>
<td>-1.82</td>
<td>4.66</td>
<td>-1.22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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962. SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

a) whether there are any changes in policy relating to export quota of sugar to USA and European Union announced by Government in April 2015, if so, the details thereof;
b) whether the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution was consulted in this regard;
c) if so, details of response received from that Ministry;
d) reasons behind change in policy, if any, for exports quota to USA and EU;
e) details of exporters, if any, engaged in export of sugar under quota during sugar season; and
f) whether changed policy, if any, resulted in additional benefit to sugar industry, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) The Government amended its policy of export of Preferential Quota sugar to EU and USA under CXL and TRQ quota through Notification No. 3 dated 20th April, 2015. Export of preferential Quota sugar to EU and USA was moved from ‘STE’ to ‘Free’.

(b)&(c) Yes, Sir. an Inter-Ministerial meeting under Chairmanship of Commerce Secretary with representative from Department of Food & Public Distribution and Directorate General of Foreign Trade was held on 7th November, 2014 and thereafter additional information like amount of income earned out of operation of the concessional quotas by M/s. Indian Sugar Exim Corporation Ltd. (ISEC) and how it was specifically used for the benefits of the sugar industry, who are the past beneficiaries of this quota etc. was sought giving adequate time. However, even after lapse of several months, the Department of Commerce did not receive details about income earned by M/s ISEC.

(d) The Preferential Quota Sugar to EU was being exported through State Trading Enterprise (STE) subject to quantitative ceiling notified by DGFT from time to time. In January, 2012 the EU liberalized its policy with respect to CXL quota sugar imports into the EU and as a result dispensed with the requirement of presentation of export licence from India. This change in the policy resulted in authorizing an Indian designated agency infructuous as such designation of an STE was not essential any more.

Further, since 2009-10, the preferential quota for export of sugar to EU were not being utilized optimally by the designated ‘STE’ resulting into losses to the country. Similarly, in
respect of USA, no sugar could be exported during 2012-13 and 2013-14 against the preferential quota of 8,227 MT each respectively by the designated agency.

(e)&(f) M/s Pure Diets India Ltd., M/s Suminter India Organic, M/s Shree Renuka Sugars Ltd. etc. were the exporters who have exported sugar under quota during sugar season 2014-15. The Government took a conscious decision in the interest of full utilization, transparency and need to liberalize trade regimes by changing the restriction condition from ‘STE’ to ‘Free’. This was aimed to provide equal opportunity to all interested and eligible sugar industries/exporters to participate in the country’s concession sugar export quota.

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966. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

a) whether India continues to have a very complex import regime as per a recent World Trade Organisation (WTO) report;
b) if so, the details in this regard with India’s response;
c) whether Government proposes to announce a National Intellectual Property Rights Policy to safeguard India’s interest; and
d) if so, the progress made in this regard?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) World Trade Organization (WTO) Report prepared as a part of the Trade Policy Review (TPR) of India held in June 2015 mentioned that India has a complex import regime. However, in response to these observations, it was informed in the TPR that the duties are imposed to equalize internal taxes such as Central and State value added taxes and other taxes leviable under domestic production, consumption or sale of goods. These are not only WTO compatible, but also commonly followed in most Member countries. It was also mentioned that these differences would be further neutralized with the introduction of a more simplified Goods and Services Tax (GST). It was also clarified that India’s import licensing regime is open and transparent and affects only a few restricted items primarily on the grounds of need to protect human, animal and plant life and environment.

(c) & (d) The Government constituted think-tank on Intellectual Property Rights has submitted a draft report in April 2015, which is currently being examined by various Ministries/Departments.

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971. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

a) what is the share of Export Processing Zones/Special Economic Zones in the country’s overall export performance during the last three years; and

b) how many Export Processing Zones/Special Economic Zones are in operation in the country as on date?

ANSWER

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

(a): The share of Special Economic Zones (SEZs) export with country’s export during the last three years is as under:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Financial Year</th>
<th>Total export of the Country (Rupees in Crore)</th>
<th>Total SEZ Export (Rupees in Crore)</th>
<th>% share of SEZ export to the country’s export</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2012-13</td>
<td>24,29,015</td>
<td>4,76,159</td>
<td>19.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013-14</td>
<td>28,18,695</td>
<td>4,94,077</td>
<td>17.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014-15</td>
<td>28,46,533</td>
<td>4,63,770</td>
<td>16.29</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(b): As on 31.03.2015, a total of 202 SEZs are in operation in the country.

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973. SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

a) whether it is a fact that as per news and media reports rice imported from some foreign countries are synthetic such as made of plastic and are being sold in various parts of the country; and

b) if so, the action taken by Government to look into this menace and safeguard the people of the country from eating such hazardous items?

**ANSWER**

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

a) Import of rice is allowed only through State Trading Enterprises (STE) as per its Import Policy under Chapter 10 of Indian Trade Classification (Harmonised System), 2012, Schedule – I (Import Policy). There is no Exim Code for “Synthetic/Plastic Rice” in the Indian Trade Classification (Harmonised System), 2012 and no such import of ‘Synthetic/Plastic Rice’ has been permitted.

b) Import of rice is subject to clearance by Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI). No adulteration in import consignments of rice cleared by FSSAI has been reported in any laboratory tests. The FSSAI, however, on the basis of alert from International Network of Food Safety Authorities (INFOSAN), had taken up the issue with the Governments of Kerala and Gujarat and these states have confirmed that no incidence of imported plastic rice has been reported in the respective states.

Nonetheless, to ensure against import of any adulterated food products, FSSAI has put in place a mechanism for drawing of samples from each of the food import consignments and their testing at authorised laboratories.
SOLUTION TO WTO SUBSIDY CAP IN MSP

975. SHRI S. THANGAVELU:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

a) whether India is striving to ensure that a permanent solution to the issue of Government's Minimum Support Price to farmers breaching the World Trade Organization's permissible caps for subsidies is achieved by 31st December, 2015;

b) whether it is a fact that India has already bagged immunity against action by other countries in case of breaches of the WTO caps; and

c) whether India is striving to get the issue included in the work programme for the next Ministerial meeting of the WTO scheduled to be held in December in Nairobi and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) At the Ninth Ministerial Conference of the WTO held in Bali in December, 2013 a Ministerial Decision was taken on the issue of public stockholding for food security purposes. Subsequently, as a result of India’s efforts, the General Council (GC) of the WTO adopted a Decision in November 2014 making it clear that a mechanism, under which WTO Members would not challenge the public stockholding programmes of developing country members for food security purposes, in relation to certain obligations under the WTO Agreement on Agriculture, would remain in place in perpetuity until a permanent solution regarding this issue has been agreed and adopted. This strengthens the safeguard available for continuing the Minimum Support Price Policy and will ensure that this will not be constrained due to WTO rules.

(c) The GC Decision also includes a commitment to find a permanent solution by 31 December 2015 on a best endeavour basis and a firm commitment to engage in negotiations for this purpose through an intensified programme of work. India is working with WTO members to ensure a permanent solution at the earliest.

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976. SHRI S. THANGAVELU:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

a) whether it is a fact that the tyre and rubber industries have asked Government to take urgent measures to stem the slide in domestic natural rubber production which is on a downward spiral for more than two years now;

b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government in this regard; and

c) whether it is also a fact that the data of natural rubber (NR) production released by Rubber Board recently shows a significant decline in production of 11 per cent in the first two months of current fiscal and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): Government has received representations from the Associations of tyre and rubber industries suggesting actions to ensure availability of natural rubber in the domestic market. Details of production and consumption of natural rubber in the country during the last three years are given below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Production</th>
<th>Consumption</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2012-13</td>
<td>913,700p</td>
<td>972,705</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013-14</td>
<td>774,000p</td>
<td>891,520</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014-15</td>
<td>645,000</td>
<td>1020,910</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015-16p (April to June)</td>
<td>143,000</td>
<td>248,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Government implements the scheme of “Sustainable and Inclusive Development of Natural Rubber Sector” which includes components for promoting expansion of area under rubber, enhancing productivity, and supporting activities for research and development. Under the Scheme, financial assistance is provided for new planting and replanting of rubber plantations in Keralan and Kanyakumari district of Tamil Nadu to small growers having land upto 2 hectares at the rate of Rs.25000 per hectare. In areas of North East and other non-traditional region, the support is available at the rate of Rs.35000 per hectare to growers.
Government has also framed schemes for Rubber development in the states of North East and Left Wing Extremism affected areas and shared with the concerned state governments.

(c): Natural Rubber (NR) production estimates for the first two months of current fiscal show a decline of 11 per cent over the same period in the previous year. Production of NR during April-May 2015 was relatively low as compared to the corresponding period of previous years mainly because of reasons outlined in part (a) & (b) of this reply.
978. SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

a) whether it is a fact that the large quantity of rice is being imported from China without any quality check, if so, the details thereof;
b) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards recent reports of the plastic rice being sold by mixing it with real rice in the country;
c) if so, Government's reaction thereto; and
d) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to carry out the quality test, particularly on imported Chinese rice?

ANSWER

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

(a) Import of rice is allowed only through the State Trading Enterprises (STE), as per India’s Import Policy under Chapter 10 of Indian Trade Classification (Harmonised System), 2012, Schedule – I (Import Policy) and it is subject to clearance by Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI). No import of rice under ITC(HS) code-1006 from China has been reported during 2014-15 and 2015-16 (April-May). No adulteration in import consignments of rice cleared by FSSAI has been reported in any laboratory tests.

(b) & (c): On the basis of alert from International Network of Food Safety Authorities (INFOSAN), FSSAI had taken up the issue with the Governments of Kerala and Gujarat and these states have confirmed that no incidence of imported plastic rice has been reported in the respective states.

(d): To ensure against import of any adulterated food products from any country, including China, FSSAI has put in place a mechanism for drawing of samples from each of the food import consignments and their testing at authorised laboratories.

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980. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

a) whether the expert committee to formulate National Rubber Policy submitted any suggestions/requests, if so, the details thereof;
b) whether the Ministry has ascertained the reasons behind the drastic fall in domestic production of rubber against rising imports; and
c) if so, the details thereof including the details of measures being taken to mitigate it?

ANSWER

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

(a): The Expert Committee to Formulate National Rubber Policy has not submitted its final report to the Government.

(b) & (c): Domestic production of natural rubber (NR) in 2013-14 was low due to adverse weather conditions, incidence of leaf diseases and reduced tapping on Natural Rubber caused by lower prices.

Details of estimated production and import of natural rubber into the country are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Production</th>
<th>Import</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010-11</td>
<td>861950</td>
<td>190692</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011-12</td>
<td>903700</td>
<td>214433</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012-13</td>
<td>913700</td>
<td>262753</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013-14</td>
<td>774000</td>
<td>360263</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014-15p</td>
<td>645000</td>
<td>442130</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

p – provisional

The Government recently 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 regulate imports. The Government has also reduced the period of utilization of imported dry rubber under advance licensing scheme.
from 18 months to 6 months. Steps for increasing production include raising rate of subsidies in the 12th Plan to Rs. 25,000 per hectare in the traditional region and Rs. 35,000 per hectare in the non-traditional region respectively, covering 8% and 15% of the development costs.

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981. SHRI C.M. RAMESH:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

a) whether it is a fact that India is going to provide its pharmaceutical data base to various regulators in the world from October this year;
b) to what extent the above move will control export of spurious drugs from India;
c) how does the above move also helps to contain spurious drugs manufactured in China and branded as Indian and sold in the international market thereby disrupting Indian drug market;
d) whether it is a fact that India is the first country to use bar code system; and
e) if so, the present status of implementation of the bar code system in pharma sector?

ANSWER

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

a) As per DGFT Public Notice No. 13 dated 22.05.2015, with effect from 01.10.2015, all pharmaceutical formulations exporters are required to upload the specified data (as bar codes) relating to manufacture of exported drugs on their Secondary and Tertiary pack in the central server / portal created by Government of India and maintained by National Informatics Centre (NIC) under name " Drug Authentication and Verification Application (DAVA) ". The information kept on the central portal would be under strict control of the Government of India. Overseas consumers / agencies may verify on the genuineness of 'Made in India' labelled medicines by scanning / reading the barcodes.

b) Once the details of pharmaceutical products are uploaded into central portal, Government or any user can verify and authenticate the genuineness of drugs sourced from India by keeping trade of the supply chains. Any pharma product which has not been exported from India, cannot be claimed or attributed to India.

c) As the made in India labelled medicines moving in overseas local markets are verifiable for genuineness through authentication system from central server maintained by Government of India, no foreign company can damage the image of the quality of drugs sourced from India.

d) As per available information, India is the first country to initiate such track and trace system in exported medicines. However, some countries, viz., Turkey and China have reportedly introduced the system for monitoring the genuineness of medicines moving in the domestic markets. Meanwhile, some other countries like USA, Germany, Hungary etc., have notified timelines for
implementation of these systems in next few years. Recently, Government of India in the Ministry of Health has also issued draft notification for implementation in the domestic market.

e) Barcoding on Tertiary and Secondary packaging of exported consignments of drugs and pharmaceuticals is already being implemented. As per DGFT Public Notification No.13 dated 22.05.2015, all exporters of drugs and pharmaceuticals are required to upload their export data on the central server with effect from 1.10.2015. Industry was also given certain options like placing 14 digit human readable GTIN, affixing barcode on mono cartons with one primary pack and maintenance of parent-child relationship.

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 983
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29TH JULY, 2015

FRAUDULENT PRACTICES RELATED TO EXPORT
AND IMPORT

983. SHRI K.K. RAGESH:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

a) whether there are reports that certain companies are involving in fraudulent
practices related to export and import in order to capitalize on the customs and
export promotion incentives as well as bag the special concessions given by the
Directorate General of Foreign Trade;

b) if so, whether such incidents have occurred in the last three years;

c) if so, the total number of such incidents reported;

d) the steps taken by Government to check such fraudulent practices related to
export and import; and

e) the volume of money lost by Government exchequer due to such fraudulent
practices by such companies?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c) & (e) Yes, Sir.

The details of cases related to misuse of customs and export promotion incentives,
adjudicated or under adjudication/ detected/ registered by the regulatory agencies such as the
Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) and
Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) during the last three years are as under:

i) Cases adjudicated/under adjudication in DGFT:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total no of cases</th>
<th>Amount involved (Rs. in Crore)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2012-13</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>42.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013-14</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>73.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014-15</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>129.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>245.43</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ii) Cases detected by DRI:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total no of cases</th>
<th>Amount involved (Rs. in Crore)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2012-13</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>913.71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013-14</td>
<td>231</td>
<td>1474.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014-15</td>
<td>146</td>
<td>1699.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>470</td>
<td>4087.12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
iii) Cases registered by the CBI:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>No. of cases registered</th>
<th>Amount involved (Rs. in Crore)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>05</td>
<td>10.89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>08</td>
<td>63.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>03</td>
<td>3.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>78.06</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

iv) Further, in Special Economic Zones (SEZ), 13 units were found to be involved in fraudulent activities related to export and import in the last three years

(d) Various government regulatory agencies e.g. CBI, DRI, Customs & Central Excise and DGFT keep a regular watch and closely monitor various activities related to export and import, in order to keep a check on fraudulent practices.

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 984
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29TH JULY, 2015

IMPORT OF WHEAT TO MEET THE DEMAND
FOR PIZZAS AND PASTAS

984. SHRI ANIL DESAI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

a) whether Indian flour millers are concerned that there is not enough wheat in the market to
feed the insatiable demand for pizzas and pastas in the country;
b) whether this has led them to place huge import orders from foreign countries; and
c) if so, the details of wheat in terms of tonnes and from which countries they have imported
and what is the outflow of foreign exchange?

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

(a) to (c) The Department of Food and Public distribution has informed
that no export/import of wheat is taking place for Central Pool Stock at
present. Import of wheat is taking place only on private account. The
import of any goods/ items takes place either because of shortage/ non-
availability of items or because of the cost-advantage and price
competitiveness of foreign manufacturers/ producers.

As per our import policy the import of wheat is freely allowed and
therefore, states/individuals do not require any
authorisation/license/permission for importing wheat. Country wise
details of wheat imported are annexed.
## Annexure

### IMPORT OF WHEAT

**Quantity in Tonnes**

**Value in US $**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COUNTRY</th>
<th>2012-13</th>
<th></th>
<th>2013-14</th>
<th></th>
<th>2014-15</th>
<th></th>
<th>2015-16(APR TO MAY)</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>QTY</td>
<td>VAL</td>
<td>QTY</td>
<td>VAL</td>
<td>QTY</td>
<td>VAL</td>
<td>QTY</td>
<td>VAL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUSTRALIA</td>
<td>2921</td>
<td>1097688</td>
<td>11272</td>
<td>4415680</td>
<td>26935</td>
<td>9246534</td>
<td>10723</td>
<td>3255903</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEXICO</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1603</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RUSSIA</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>7911</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1065</td>
<td>286783</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UKRAINE</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2556</td>
<td>704437</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Total</td>
<td>2944</td>
<td>1105599</td>
<td>11272</td>
<td>4415680</td>
<td>29494</td>
<td>9952574</td>
<td>11788</td>
<td>3542686</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Figures for 2014-15 and 2015-16(April to May) is provisional.

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985. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

a) whether it is a fact that Ministry has permitted Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) enquiry against some officers of State Trading Corporation (STC) Ltd;
b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the names of officers;
c) whether Government has fixed any deadline for the completion of such enquiry;
d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

e) how much loss STC has suffered due to wrongdoings of its officers in last three years and how the money will be recovered?

ANSWER

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

(a) : No, Sir.

(b) to (d): Do not arise in view of the above.

(e) Inquiries are instituted against officers for their various acts of commission and omission whenever any unanticipated losses take place in any transaction. It is not possible to directly link the amount of loss in a transaction to the wrongdoings of an officer. For recovery of outstanding dues from associates/parties, various actions are taken like Arbitration Proceeding, Criminal Complaints, Recovery/Summary suits, Risk sale of the pledged goods and other legal steps/recourses. As a matter of prudent accounting policies, provisions/write off are also made whenever required.

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 986
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29TH JULY, 2015

PROMOTION OF EXPORT OF INDIAN BRANDED PRODUCTS

986. DR. CHANDAN MITRA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

a) whether Government has chalked out any scheme to promote export of Indian branded products, manufactured in the country;
b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
c) the steps taken by Government to enhance the export of Indian branded products in order to promote country's image in the world market?

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

(a) & (b) The Government promotes export of Indian goods / products, including branded products, through the Market Access Initiative (MAI) Scheme and the Market Development Assistance (MDA) Scheme. Under these schemes, assistance is extended to the Export Promotion Councils, Trade Bodies, other eligible agencies / organizations, exporters etc. for activities like participation in trade fairs, exhibitions, marketing projects abroad, capacity building, support for statutory compliances etc. Foreign Trade Policy 2015-2020 also contains a scheme, namely, Merchandise Export from India Scheme (MEIS) to provide rewards for export of goods / products, including Indian branded products, which are produced / manufactured in India, especially those having high export intensity, employment potential and thereby enhancing India’s export competitiveness. Exports of notified goods / products to notified markets are incentivized in the form of Duty Credit Scrips.

(c) Government undertakes through India Trade Promotion Organization (ITPO), India Brand Equity Foundation (IBEF), Export Promotion Councils (EPCs) and the Trade Bodies regular activities for promotion of India’s brand equity through participation in India Shows, major international trade exhibitions in India and abroad, Business to Business meets, interaction with journalists and media, communication strategy and sectoral brand promotion.

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988(H). SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

a) whether it is a fact that the State of Bihar has been granted permission for inland transport for the purpose of export and import, if so, the details thereof;

b) whether Central Government proposes to provide assistance by means of grant to the State transport of Bihar for the purpose of inland transport development; and

c) if so, the details of the action plan in this regard?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c) : The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House

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