

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2073**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 01<sup>st</sup> JANUARY, 2018**

**EXPORT OF SOYABEAN MEAL**

2073. ADV. NARENDRA KESHAV SAWAIKAR:

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

- whether India was a major exporter of soyabean meal recently;
- if so, the details thereof along with the details of foreign exchange earned therefrom during the last five years;
- whether it is also a fact that the export of soyabean meal have come down heavily in recent years; and
- if so, the reasons therefor along with the remedial action proposed by the Government in this regard?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सी. आर. चौधरी)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)

(a)& (b) Details of India's export of soybean meal (HS code:2304 -Oil cake and other Solid residue Soybean Oil Extraction of soybean), during the last five years are as under:

(Qty in Tons; Value in US\$ in million)

2016-17		2015-16		2014-15		2013-14		2012-13	
Qty	Value	Qty	Value	Qty	Value	Qty	Value	Qty	Value
12,76,177	554.90	4,12,986	233.34	14,67,698	786.67	40,91,183	2258.27	47,41,052	2605.41

(Source: DGCI&S)

(c) Yes madam. Due to the non-competitive price in the international market, during 2014-15 and 2015-16, there was a substantial decline in export of soybean meal as compared to 2012-13 and 2013-14. However, export of Soybean meals registered a growth of 209% during 2016-17 as compared to 2015-16.

(d) The Government has increased Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS) on soybean meal to 7% from 5%. This is likely to make Indian oilmeals more competitive in the international market and may result in increase in export of oilmeals during the coming years.

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2089**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 01<sup>st</sup> JANUARY, 2018**

**NEW MARKET FOR INDIAN TEA**

2089. SHRIMATI K. MARAGATHAM:

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

- (a) whether India is aiming to break new ground in its tea exports with an entry into Chile where it had already taken a delegation and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether currently Indian presence in tea trade is virtually non-existent in Chile and the market is presently covered by Argentina and Sri Lanka with some re-traded teas also being sent from some European countries and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether India has offered concessions to Chile and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सी. आर. चौधरी)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)

(a): Yes, Madam. Chile is an important potential market for Indian Tea exporters. Steps have already been taken for exploring the same through mounting a Tea Trade delegation in the month of June 2017.

(b): Chile has a tea import market of about 20.86 M. kgs (2016). It is primarily an Orthodox market with Argentina having a market share of 48.79% (10.18 M. kgs) followed by Sri Lanka with 33.90% (7.07 M. kgs). The Indian tea exports has been negligible to this region.

(c): No, Madam.

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
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(DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE)

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2093**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 01<sup>st</sup> JANUARY, 2018**

**STATE PAVILIONS AT TRADE FAIR**

2093. SHRIMATI KOTHAPALLI GEETHA:

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

- (a) whether the Government had not set up Telangana Pavilion due to space constraint in India Trade Fair recently held at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of actual space given to other States for setting up of their State's Pavilion in Trade Fair, 2017; and
- (d) the steps being taken by the Government to set up all States Pavilions at Pragati Maidan to create awareness about the products of various States in Trade Fairs not only at Pragati Maidan but in other Fairs also in future?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सी. आर. चौधरी)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)

- (a) & (b): ITPO have informed that they had offered the Government of Telangana 300 sqm. of bare space in Hangar No.15 opposite Hall No.11 for the India International Trade Fair, 2017 (IITF-2017). However, due to lack of a timely response from the Government of Telangana, ITPO subsequently reallocated the earmarked land by offering it to Government of Nagaland and other domestic participants.
- (c): The details of area allocated by ITPO to other State Govts./UTs in IITF-2017 is placed at Annex-A.
- (d): No permanent allotment is envisaged for the States/UTs pavilions in the new exhibition complex (IECC i.e. Integrated Exhibition cum Convention Centre) at Pragati Maidan. The allotment shall be made on exhibition to exhibition basis on receipt of requests from the states/ UTs.

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**AREA ALLOCATED TO STATE GOVT. IN IITF-2017**

<b>S.No</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>HANGAR</b>	<b>Area allocated</b>
1.	Meghalaya	H-1	195
2	Chhattisgarh	H-1	300
3	Delhi	H-1	300
4	Manipur	H-1	195
5	Haryana	H-1	298
6	Odisha	H-2	400
7	Bihar	H-2	291.5
8	Karnataka	H-2	480
9	Andhra Pradesh	H-2	400
10	Jammu & Kashmir	H-2	365
11	Lakshadweep	H-2	120
12	Nagaland	H-15	300
13	Jharkhand	H-3	384
14	Punjab	H-3	504
15	Andaman & Nicobar	H-3	96
16	Puducherry	H-3	96
17	Uttar Pradesh	H-3, H-2	804
18	Himachal Pradesh	H-4	344
19	Uttarakhand	H- 5	288
20	Mizoram	H- 5	180
21	Goa	H-15	150
22	Tripura	H-15	200
23	Kerala	H-15	490
24	West Bengal	H-15	504
25	Madhya Pradesh	H-15	300
26	Assam	H-15	400
27	Rajasthan	H-15	499
28	Tamil Nadu	H-15	490
29	Gujarat	H-15	400
30	Maharashtra	H-15	396

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2129**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 01<sup>st</sup> JANUARY, 2018**

**REVIVAL OF CLOSED TEA GARDENS**

2129. SHRI KANWAR SINGH TANWAR:

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

- (a) the details of tea gardens lying closed at present, State-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has chalked out any programme to revive these closed tea gardens;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सी. आर. चौधरी)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)

- (a) to (d): At present, there are twelve closed tea gardens in the country, nine in the State of West Bengal and three in the State of Kerala. The details regarding date of closure and current status are given in **Annexure**. Central Government and Tea Board are in active coordination with the State Government concerned to make the gardens functional and if required, by transferring the lease of land to other interested entrepreneurs.

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**ANNEXURE****State wise details of 12 closed tea gardens in the country**

Sl. No.	Name of the Tea Estate	State	Date of Closure	Current status
1.	Dheklapara Tea Estate	<b>West Bengal</b>	11.03.2006	The estate was officially liquidated by the Hon'ble Calcutta High Court. The garden was put up for e-auction by the Hon'ble Calcutta High Court (Official Liquidator) on 11 <sup>th</sup> May,2012, but no prospective buyer was available.
2.	Bundapani Tea Estate		13.07.2013	The State Govt. has taken possession of the land of the closed Bundapani T.E on 15th Oct,2014, on expiry of lease of land.
3.	Dharanipur Tea Estate		19.10.2013	The State Govt. has taken possession of the land of the closed Dharanipur T.E on 18th Nov, 2014.
4.	Redbank Tea Estate		19.10.2013	The State Govt. has taken possession of the land of the closed Redbank T.E on 21st Nov,2014, on expiry of lease of land.
5.	Surendranagar Tea Estate		19.10.2013	The State Government has cancelled the Land Lease of Surendra Nagar T.E by an order dated 14/11/2014 and the Land has been taken over by the State Government on 13.01.2015
6.	Madhu Tea Estate		23.09.2014	The process of sale of the property is under process.
7.	Panighata Tea Estate		10.10.2015	Labour unrest due to non-payment of dues.
8.	Manabari Tea Estate		21.03.2016	Labour unrest due to non-payment of dues.
9.	Kumlai Tea Estate		15-11-2015	Labour unrest due to non-settlement of dues.
10.	M/s Peermade Tea Co. Ltd.- Peermade & Lonetree Tea Estate	<b>Kerala</b>	01.04.2016	Labour unrest due to non-settlement of labour dues. The Govt. of Kerala is in the process of reopening of the estate.
11.	M/s MMJ Plantations- Kottamala & Bonami Tea Estate		23.12.2013/ 11.10.2014	The company has got a stay order from the Kerala High Court prohibiting action against the company presently under Tea Act.
12.	Bonaccord Tea Estate		05.03.2015	Estate Management has abandoned the estate due to financial crisis.

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**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2156**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 01<sup>st</sup> JANUARY, 2018**

**FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES FACED BY RUBBER BOARD**

2156. DR. SHASHI THAROOR:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that over 10 lakh people are involved in the growing of rubber in the State of Kerala;
- (b) whether the Government has reduced the funding for the Rubber Board in 2017-18 and if so, the details thereof along with the reasons for reduction in financial assistance to the Rubber Board;
- (c) whether the Government is aware of the financial difficulties being faced by the Rubber Board that they did not even have funds to disburse subsidies for planting and replanting trees for the year 2015-16;
- (d) if so, whether the Government will take specific measures to remedy the financial difficulties faced by the Rubber Board; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सी. आर. चौधरी)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)

- (a): There are around 13.2 lakhs rubber smallholdings in the country, out of which around 9 lakhs are in the State of Kerala.
- (b) to (e): Due to budget constraints, funding to the Commodity Boards including the Rubber Board, has been reduced in the last two years which resulted in insufficient funds for disbursement of subsidies. The matter has been actively taken up with the Ministry of Finance. For the Medium Term Framework (2017-18 to 2019-20), an amount of Rs. 721.98 crores have been approved for Rubber Board as per details below which includes the amount required for payment of pending subsidies.

**Approved outlay for Medium Term Framework**

(Rs. in crores)

<b>2017-18</b>	<b>2018-19</b>	<b>2019-20</b>	<b>Total</b>
241.07	228.73	252.18	721.98

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
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(DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE)

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2164(H)**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 01<sup>st</sup> JANUARY, 2018**

**TRADE WITH NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES**

2164(H). SHRI RAHUL KASWAN:

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

- (a) the main features of Indian trade with neighbouring countries;
- (b) the details of India's trade relations with these countries during the last three years;
- (c) the details of the possibility of strengthening India's trade relations with neighbouring countries; and
- (d) the details of the measures to be taken by the Government in this regard?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सी. आर. चौधरी)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)

- (a) On account of various factors, including its geographical size and population, diversified and mature economy, size of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) etc, India occupies a pre-eminent position in its trade with the South Asia region. India has accepted asymmetrical responsibilities and provided duty free access to almost all the products (except a few products pertaining to alcohol and tobacco) from Least Developed Countries, under Agreement on South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA).
- (b) The value of India's trade (exports and imports) with the neighbouring/SAARC countries from 2014-15 to 2016-2017 and for the current year i.e. 2017-18, as available upto October, 2017, is given below:

Country	Values in US \$ Million							
	2014-2015		2015-16		2016-17		2017-2018 (April-October) (Provisional)	
	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports
South Asia								
Afghanistan TIS	422.56	261.91	526.60	307.90	506.34	292.90	397.43	235.31
Bangladesh PR	6,451.48	621.37	6,034.94	727.15	6,820.13	701.68	4,206.70	319.67
Bhutan	333.94	149.87	468.95	281.27	509.28	307.82	260.58	201.07
Maldives	152.38	4.32	179.04	4.29	197.79	9.17	113.60	3.45
Nepal	4,558.77	639.91	3,930.09	470.59	5,453.59	445.13	3,305.98	233.24
Pakistan IR	1,857.29	497.31	2,171.16	441.03	1,821.88	454.49	850.08	298.70
Sri Lanka DSR	6,703.72	756.17	5,309.53	742.79	3,913.15	602.20	2,413.28	407.32
<b>Total</b>	<b>20,480.14</b>	<b>2,930.85</b>	<b>18,620.32</b>	<b>2,975.01</b>	<b>19,222.18</b>	<b>2,813.40</b>	<b>11,547.64</b>	<b>1,698.76</b>

Data Source: DGCIIS

(c) and(d): For increasing intra-regional trade in South Asia, the Government has taken various steps to improve the trade infrastructure with neighbouring / SAARC countries which, inter-alia, include upgradation of Land Customs Stations, establishment of Integrated Check Posts/Border Haats, facilitation of bilateral and sub-regional connectivity, etc. Trade liberalisation is being carried out under SAFTA by India/ other SAARC countries to encourage greater trade. The Government continues to engage pro-actively with SAARC countries to strengthen trade and economic relations. Bilateral and multilateral trade discussions, held with these countries from time to time, also explore mechanisms for enhancement of trade. Further, assistance is provided under Market Access Initiative(MAI) to Indian exporters, Export Promotion Councils, apex trade bodies etc., for participation in events in foreign countries, including countries in neighbourhood.

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
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(DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE)

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2188**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 01<sup>st</sup> JANUARY, 2018**

**PROMOTION OF SERVICE SECTOR**

2188(H). SHRI RAM KUMAR SHARMA:

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

- whether the service sector has developed as an industry across the world including India;
- if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- whether various countries across the world have taken actions for creating hurdles in their respective countries in the way of expansion of the said sector;
- if so, the details thereof along with the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- the measures taken by the Government in removing these hurdles along with the success achieved in this regard?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सी. आर. चौधरी)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)

(a) & (b) Services are the growing frontier of global trade. In terms of contribution towards GDP, FDI, exports and employment generation, services are becoming a dominant driver of economic growth, both in developed and developing countries. The following table illustrates the importance of services sector:

<b>Growing share of Services in the World Economy</b>		
<b>2014</b>	<b>India</b>	<b>World</b>
Share of Services in GDP	52.1%	70.5%
Trade in Services as a share of GDP in 2009 and 2014*	12.7% and 14.8%	11.8% and 13.2%
Higher buoyancy in growth of services exports	Service (5%), Goods (2%)	Service (4%), Goods (1%)
Share in Employment	28.7%	50.9%
<i>Source – World Bank and *WTO database</i>		

(c) to (e) It may be mentioned that Software Services is a dominant service export from India. The Economic Survey, 2016-17 has stated that misconstruing mobility of skilled people as an immigration issue is a deterrent of growth of IT-BPM Global business resulting in many barriers to free movement of skill of data in the major markets. Countries like USA, UK, EU and Australia have introduced various changes that are obstacles for Indian companies to export services from India. India has taken up these issues with respective countries under aegis of various institutional mechanisms.

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2194**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 01<sup>st</sup> JANUARY, 2018**

**BAN ON MEAT EXPORT**

2194. SHRI SANJAY HARIBHAU JADHAV

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

- (a) whether the Government has proposed to ban meat export and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the proposed ban on meat export is likely to affect the business of meat exporters; and
- (c) if so, the reaction of the Government along with the remedial measures proposed by the Government to protect the interest of meat exporters?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सी. आर. चौधरी)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)

- (a) No, Madam. Presently, there is no such proposal to ban meat export.
- (b) & (c) Does not arise.

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2209**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 01<sup>st</sup> JANUARY, 2018**

**IMPACT OF GST ON DIAMOND INDUSTRY**

2209. DR. THOKCHOM MEINYA:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the diamond industry is badly hit by the implementation of Goods and Service Tax (GST) in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Ministry is planning to approach the Ministry of Finance for making further changes in the GST to give relief to diamond business particularly to those dealing with cutting and polishing; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सी. आर. चौधरी)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)

(a) & (b) The diamond industry was initially affected after implementation of Goods and Service Tax (GST) with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2017. However, the situation has improved thereafter and the export of cut and polished diamond during the period July-November, 2017 was USD 9696.13 Million as compared to USD 9707.00 during the same period in previous year.

(c) & (d) The representations made by Gem & Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC) for changes in GST to give relief to diamond industry has already been taken up with Ministry of Finance. Also, some of the changes in GST rates have been made, like reduction in GST rate on job work and treating industrial rough diamond at par with non-industrial rough diamond.

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2220**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 01<sup>st</sup> JANUARY, 2018**

**SPICE PARKS**

2220. SHRI GODSE HEMANT TUKARAM:

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

- (a) the number of spice parks set up by the Government in different States, State-wise;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to set up more such parks in the States to empower the farmers producing spices by having better price realisation and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government and the States are sharing the expenditure in setting up these parks;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the total amount spent by the Government on these parks along with the fund earmark; and
- (e) the number of proposals pending with Government for setting up such parks along with their status?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सी. आर. चौधरी)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)

(a): Eight Spices Parks with infrastructure for common processing facilities of Spices have been established by Spices Board with financial assistance from the Government of India under the Scheme of Assistance to States for Development of Export Infrastructure and Allied activities (ASIDE) and Integrated Scheme for Export Promotion & Quality Improvement in Spices and Research & Development of Cardamom, Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) and State Government of Andhra Pradesh. Details are in **Annexure**.

(b) to (e): Following discontinuation of the ASIDE scheme, Trade Infrastructure for Export Scheme (TIES) is under implementation by Department of Commerce wherein assistance of 50% of the total equity in the project subject to a maximum of Rs. 20 crores is available for establishing trade infrastructure, including Spice Parks, to the State Governments. In case of projects located in North Eastern States and Himalayan States including Jammu & Kashmir, the grant can be upto 80% of the total equity subject to the maximum of Rs. 20 crores.

Besides this, Spice Parks can also be established under Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode under the scheme of Integrated Scheme for Export Promotion & Quality Improvement in Spices and Research & Development of Cardamom wherein the assistance is limited to 20% equity subject to a maximum of Rs. 20 crores. At present, there is no proposal pending for setting up of Spices Park.

**ANNEXURE****(Rs in crores)**

<b>Location of Spice park</b>	<b>Funds Spent</b>	<b>Funding source</b>
Chhindwara, Madhya Pradesh	20.50	ASIDE scheme- 19.80 Plan scheme of Spices Board - 0.70
Puttady, Kerala	25.00	Plan scheme of Spices Board - 25.00
Jodhpur, Rajasthan	30.60	Plan scheme of Spices Board -30.60
Sivaganga, Tamil Nadu	20.70	Plan scheme of Spices Board - 20.70
Guna, MP	33.63	ASIDE scheme - 25.00 APEDA - 1.79 Plan scheme of Spices Board - 6.84
Guntur, AP	7.90	Plan scheme of Spices Board - 7.90 Government of Andhra Pradesh. - 11.60
Kota, Rajasthan	15.75	ASIDE scheme - 10.00 Plan scheme of Spices Board - 5.75
Raebareli, Uttar Pradesh	15.20	ASIDE scheme – 15.00  Plan scheme of Spices Board -0.20

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2223**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 01<sup>st</sup> JANUARY, 2018**

**IMPORT OF GOLD AND JEWELLERY ARTICLES**

2223. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY:

DR. C. GOPALAKRISHNAN:

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

- (a) whether the Government has identified certain loopholes in India's Free Trade Agreement with South Korea and other countries which has resulted in sudden surge in imports of gold and other related articles;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the measures taken/being taken by the Government in this regard;
- (c) whether the Government has restricted imports of jewellery articles and other precious metals from some countries and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, country-wise;
- (d) whether the Government has issued new guidelines/directions that importers will have to obtain a license from the Directorate General of Foreign Trade for importing gold and silver from South Korea; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with the total volume of imports of gold and silver from South Korea during the last three years?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सी. आर. चौधरी)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)

- (a) to (c): The gold jewellery / articles are classified under Exim codes 7113, 7114, 7115 and 7118. Under India – Korea Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA), these items were kept in E-8 category in India's schedule i.e. the tariff was to be reduced gradually and becoming zero with effect from 01.01.2017. The Rules of Origin criteria for these items under CEPA do not require any condition of minimum value addition by the exporting country.

Prior to Goods and Services Tax (GST) regime, there were certain safeguards such as Counter-vailing Duty (CVD) and Excise Duty. GST subsumed all other taxes with only 3% GST/IGST on gold and gold items. Therefore, in GST regime, traders using the India – Korea CEPA route are paying only 3% GST. Since MFN duty (basic customs duty from all other countries) on gold is 10%, they are getting an arbitrage of about 10% on gold items with nil Customs Duty on import from South Korea.

Considering the sudden surge in imports of gold articles from South Korea in July and August, 2017, the Government issued a Notification amending import policy of gold and silver to restricted category for imports from South Korea.

- (d) & (e): The Government has imposed restrictions, with effect from 25<sup>th</sup> August, 2017, on import of gold and silver from South Korea, thus requiring an Authorisation from the Directorate General of Foreign Trade for importing such items from South Korea. No license has been issued so far for import of gold/silver from South Korea.

Total volume of imports of gold and silver from South Korea during the last three years is annexed.

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## Annex

## IMPORT FROM SOUTH KOREA

HS CODE	UNIT_QTY	ITEM DESC	2014-15		2015-16		2016-17		2017-18 (APR TO OCT)	
			QTY	VAL(US \$)	QTY	VAL(US \$)	QTY	VAL(US \$)	QTY	VAL(US \$)
71081200	KGS	OTHER NON-MONETARY UNWROUGHT FORMS OF GOLD							35	1456789
71081300	KGS	OTHR NON-MONETRY SEMI MNFCTRD FRMS OF GOLD	0	5360	0	8875	0	6024		
71131110	KGS	SILVER FILLIGREE WORK					24094	13847064		
71131120	KGS	SILVER JEWELLERY SET WITH GEMS	3	5487	28	22928	1	4053	0	1282
71131130	KGS	OTHR ARTCLS OF SILVER JWELLERY	3	5116	2	2905	4057	2431356	3146	1859651
71131190	KGS	PARTS	14	23566	14	32542	23	36296	13	17875
71131910	KGS	JEWELLERY OF GOLD UNSET	24	771888	1134	42616641	10	407082	1370	56444540
71131920	KGS	JEWELLERY OF GOLD SET WITH PEARLS					1	46678	0	2410
71131930	KGS	JEWELLERY OF GOLD SET WITH DIAMOND	1	36416						
71131960	KGS	PARTS	1	55215	0	459				
71131990	KGS	ARTCLS OF OTHR PRCS METAL	16	576493	11	439979	2	102696	162	7026621
71141110	KGS	MANUFACTURES OF SILVER					10	5798		
71141910	KGS	MANUFACTURES OF GOLD					655	28926674	31764	1347564571
71159010	KGS	OTHER LABORATORY AND INDUSTRIAL ARTICLES OF PRECIOUS METAL OR ROLLED GOLD			1	1069	150	8260		
71159090	KGS	OTHR ARTCLS OF PRCS MTL/ROLLED GOLD	225	13002	110	10783	650	36013	101	19289
71189000	KGS	OTHER COIN					1706	70457787		
<b>Grand Total</b>			<b>287</b>	<b>1492543</b>	<b>1300</b>	<b>43136181</b>	<b>31359</b>	<b>116315781</b>	<b>36591</b>	<b>1414393028</b>

Note:1) figures for 2017-18 (Apr to Oct) is provisional.

2) No import under HS code 7109,7112 from South Korea has been recorded during last three years and 2017-18 (Apr to Oct)

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2224**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 01<sup>st</sup> JANUARY, 2018**

**IMPORT OF CONTAMINATED FOOD PRODUCTS**

2224. DR. PRITAM GOPINATH MUNDE:  
SHRI KUNWAR PUSHPENDRA SINGH CHANDEL:  
SHRI DHARMENDRA YADAV:  
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:  
SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL:

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

- (a) whether radioactive contaminated food product is being imported in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has been scanning radioactive contamination of these food items and if so, the details thereof, country-wise;
- (c) whether any contamination has been detected in the scanned food products imported from some countries and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the details of infrastructure available in the country for scanning of such food products along with the efforts being made to make scanning more effective for food products; and
- (e) whether the Government has discontinued the scanning of food products imported from some countries and if so, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सी. आर. चौधरी)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)

- (a) to (c): Whenever any alert / feedback is received regarding radioactive contamination, the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) issues necessary instructions / advisories to its field formations.

FSSAI released advisories in March and April, 2011 following the earthquake in Japan and consequent radiation leakage from affected Nuclear Plant that samples of imported food articles particularly fresh produce exported from Japan after 11th March, 2011, such as sea food, fruits, vegetables and meat be tested for radioactive contamination. The testing was decided to be done at the following laboratories:

- (i) Board Radiation and Isotope Technology (BRIT / BARC), Navi Mumbai.
- (ii) Shriram Institute for Industrial Research, New Delhi.
- (iii) Monarch Biotech Private Limited, Chennai.

(d): Currently there are 232 laboratories which are utilized by FSSAI for testing of food samples. Out of these 232 laboratories:

- (i) 72 laboratories are State/Public food laboratories functioning under the State/ Union Territory Government (utilized for primary analysis of sample by the Food Analyst under FSS Act, 2006).
  - (ii) 142 laboratories are NABL (ISO 17025) accredited laboratories, mostly private, notified by FSSAI for primary analysis of sample by the Food Analyst under FSS Act, 2006.
  - (iii) 18 laboratories are Referral Laboratories notified by FSSAI for the purpose of referral testing under FSS Act, 2006/ Rules & Regulations, 2011 (i.e. analysis of appeal samples). These come under various Central Government Ministries/ Departments/State Govt. 2 of these are FSSAI's own labs viz. Food Research and Standardisation laboratory (FRSL), Ghaziabad and Central Food Laboratory (CFL) , Kolkata .
- (e) As none of the samples tested had failed on the basis of radioactive contaminations, the said advisory was withdrawn by FSSAI on 17th February, 2016. No instance of radioactive food products import has been detected at the six ports where FSSAI is present even after withdrawal of the said advisory.

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2238**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 01<sup>st</sup> JANUARY, 2018**

**COMPLAINTS AGAINST FDDI**

2238. SHRI HARINDER SINGH KHALSA

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the complaints regarding exorbitant fee charged by the Footwear Design and Development Institute (FDDI);
- (b) if so, the details of the fee charged by FDDI since commencement of degree courses as well as average packages offered during campus placement, year-wise;
- (c) whether any audit in this regard has been conducted by the Government during the last five years and if so, the details thereof along with major irregularities noticed therein and the responsibilities fixed in those irregularities; and
- (d) the remedial measures taken/ proposed to be taken to redress the grievances of the students?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सी. आर. चौधरी)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)

- (a) Footwear Design and Development Institute (FDDI) is a self-financing autonomous Institution and is empowered to decide about the fee to be charged from the students. The fee is based on factors like course contents, facilities and training aids provided to the students and the same is duly approved by the Governing Council of FDDI, which is the apex decision making body of the institute. The fee to be charged for different courses is clearly indicated in the prospectus brought out every year for information of students before taking admission.
- (b) A statement indicating year-wise fee charged per semester and average annual package offered to students during campus placement since commencement of degree course is enclosed at Annexure.
- (c) The audit conducted by C & AG of accounts of FDDI during last five years has not pointed out any irregularities in their audit reports with regard to this matter.
- (d) Does not arise.

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## Annexure

Details of year-wise fee charged per semester by the FDDI in different campuses (in ₹ terms), and per annum average packages offered during campus placements

Programme /Year (Session)		Post Graduate	Under Graduate	Integrated Programme (BBA+MBA)	Per annum average package offered (in Lakhs ₹)
2010	Noida	68,100	58,100	--	1.68
	Others	53,100	43,100	--	
2011	Noida	68,100	58,100	--	2.65
	Others	53,100	43,100	--	
2012	Noida	85,600	70,600	MBA-85,600 BBA-75,600	3.1
	Others	71,850	70,600	--	
2013	Noida	86,100	71,100	MBA-86,100 BBA-71,100	4.8
	Others	72,350	61,100	MBA-72,350 BBA-61,100	
2014	Noida	1,01,500	86,500	MBA-1,01,500 BBA-86,500	2.91
	Others	76,500	66,500	MBA-76,500 BBA-66,500	
2015	Noida	1,01,500	86,500	MBA-86,500 BBA-86,500	3.66
	Chennai/ Kolkata/ Rohtak/ Jodhpur	76,500	66,500	MBA-66,500 BBA-66,500	
	Chhindwara/Guna/ Fursatganj	66,500	56,500	--	
2016	Noida	91,000	76,000	--	4.1
	Kolkata/Rohtak/ Jodhpur/ Hyderabad/Patna/ Ankleshwar/ Chandigarh	71,000	56,000	--	
	Chhindwara/Guna/ Fursatganj/ Chennai	61,000	46,000	--	
2017	Noida	91,000	76,000	--	3.2
	Kolkata/Rohtak/ Jodhpur/ Hyderabad/Patna/ Ankleshwar/ Chandigarh	71,000	56,000	--	
	Chhindwara/ Guna Fursatganj/ Chennai	61,000	46,000	--	
2018	Noida	91,400	76,400	--	--
	Others	71,400	56,400	--	

Remarks: Other than the above fee, ₹10,000/- is charged against Refundable Security Deposit in the first semester.

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2244**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 01<sup>st</sup> JANUARY, 2018**

**EXPORT OF MANGOES**

2244. SHRIMATI MAUSAM NOOR:

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

- (a) whether the Government has received any memoranda from the mango growers of the country including those from Malda district, to initiate processes for redressal of hurdles faced by them in exporting mangoes to various markets in nearby nations;
- (b) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard;
- (c) whether the Government is aware of any slide in the export of mangoes to Bangladesh owing to an increase in export fees ordered by Bangladesh authorities;
- (d) if so, whether the Government has made any effort in addressing the issue through bilateral channels; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सी. आर. चौधरी)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)

- (a) No, Madam.
- (b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.
- (c to e): Yes, Madam. The Government of India, through the High Commission of India in Dhaka, has raised the issue with the Government of Bangladesh requesting them to reduce the duty levied on import of mangoes from India to Bangladesh.

The Agricultural & Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), in collaboration with the Government of West Bengal, has taken steps to promote exports of mangoes from West Bengal to alternative markets like European Union. The existing pack house at Malda has been upgraded and a Hot Water Treatment (HWT) facility has been set up at the pack house. APEDA, in association with the Directorate of Horticulture, Govt. of West Bengal, has also held a training programme for farmers. As a result of these efforts, some exports to the EU countries have taken place during the current year.

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2252(H)**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 01<sup>st</sup> JANUARY, 2018**

**POLICY FOR AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS**

2252(H). SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH:

SHRI C.R. PATIL:

SHRI BHAGWANTH KHUBA:

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

- whether the Government is formulating any scheme/policy for agricultural exports;
- if so, the details thereof along with its implementation status and the targets fixed by the Government for the ensuing years under the scheme including the action plan in this regard, year-wise; and
- whether the Government proposes to bring out policy to develop agriclusters and if so, the details and the objectives thereof?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सी. आर. चौधरी)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)

(a& b) The Government has comprehensive policies/schemes run by organizations like Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT), Agricultural & Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) and other Commodity Boards to promote exports of agricultural and allied products. For promotion of exports of agricultural and processed food products, the Government has approved "Agriculture & Processed Food Export promotion Scheme of APEDA" for the Medium Term Expenditure Framework (2017-18 to 2019-20) with a total outlay of Rs. 685 crores. Year wise and component wise details of the scheme are as under:

(In RsCrore)

S. No.	Component	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	Total
<b>A</b>	<b>Scheme Components</b>				
(a)	Infrastructure Development	30.00	79.00	83.00	192.00
(b)	Quality Development	19.50	51.00	56.50	127.00
(c)	Market Development	30.00	44.00	46.00	120.00

	<b>Sub Total A</b>	<b>79.50</b>	<b>174.00</b>	<b>185.50</b>	<b>439.00</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>Committed Liabilities of 12<sup>th</sup> Plan</b>	100.00	100.00	46.00	146.00
	<b>Total (A+B)</b>	<b>179.50</b>	<b>274.00</b>	<b>231.50</b>	<b>685.00</b>

- (c) The Agricultural & Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), an autonomous organisation under the administrative control of Department of Commerce, has also identified clusters for export oriented production of horticulture products. The following clusters have been identified in the first phase:

<b>State</b>	<b>Product</b>	<b>Districts</b>
Andhra Pradesh	Banana	1. Kurnool 2. Kadapa 3. Anantapuram
	Pomegranate	1. Kurnool 2. Kadapa 3. Anantapuram
Kerala	Pineapple	1. Idukki 2. Ernakulam 3. Kottayam
Gujarat	Banana	1. Bharuch 2. Narmada
	Mango	1. Navsari 2. Valsad 3. GirSomanath 4. Junagadh 5. Kutch
	Potato	1. Banaskantha 2. Sabarkantha 3. Mehsana 4. Gandhi Nagar
West Bengal	Vegetables	1. Nadia 2. North & South 24 Parganas 3. Midnapur 4. Murshidabad
Karnataka	Rose Onion	1. Bangalore Rural 2. Kolar 3. Belgaum 4. Dharward 5. Bagalkote 6. Chikkaballapur
	Mangoes	1. Kolar 2. Chhikaballapur 3. Ramanagar
Telangana	Mango	1. Rangareddy 2. Kareem Nagar 3. Mehboob Nagar 4. Khammam 5. Warangal

APEDA is collaborating with various agencies of Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare and the respective State Governments for identifying specific interventions and infrastructure gaps, which will help in expansion of area, augmenting productivity and creation of infrastructure and logistics to boost exports.

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2269**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 01<sup>st</sup> JANUARY, 2018**

**WTO MEETING**

2269. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:

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

- (a) whether the World Trade Organization(WTO) with nearly 164 countries was conceived with an aim to reduce trade barriers, resolve disputes among member countries;
- (b) if so, whether a meeting of WTO was recently held in Buenos Aires to discuss the issues and if so, the details thereof and main issues discussed in the meetings;
- (c) whether WTO is facing major confrontation between the developed and developing countries on many issues including on agricultural subsidy, products for trade and e-commerce and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether these issues also came up for discussion and future roadmap chalked out in the meeting; and
- (e) if so, the details and the outcome thereof along with the concern expressed by India in the meeting in regard to trade on agricultural products, restrictions and subsidy?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सी. आर. चौधरी)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)

- a) The preamble of Marrakesh Agreement establishing the World Trade Organization (WTO), inter-alia recognizes reduction of tariffs and other barriers to trade as one of its objectives. Resolving trade disputes, arising when any member violates an agreement or a commitment made by it in the WTO, is also one of the core activities of the WTO.
- b) and c): The Eleventh Ministerial Conference of the WTO ('MC11') was held in Buenos Aires, Argentina from 10 to 13 December 2017. A number of issues including a permanent solution on the issue of public stockholding for food security purposes and other agriculture issues, domestic regulations in services, disciplines on fisheries subsidies, E-commerce, Investment Facilitation and Micro, Medium and Small Enterprises (MSMEs) etc. came up for discussions in the meeting. However, no consensus could be reached on outcomes on many of the issues. India and other developing countries wanted outcomes on the issue of public stockholding for food security purposes and other agricultural issues, while preserving the special and differential treatment for developing countries. Some of

the developed countries, however were not agreeable to the proposed flexibilities to the developing countries. They wished to advance issues concerning e-commerce, MSME, investment facilitation etc. India and some other developing countries were of the view that these new issues do not have negotiating mandate and, therefore cannot be part of any outcome in MC11.

(d)to(e): Ministerial decisions that were taken during the MC11 include a Work Programme on disciplines on Fisheries Subsidies with a view to arriving at a decision by the Twelfth Ministerial Conference of the WTO, in 2019. It was also decided to continue with the non-negotiating mandate of the existing Work Programme on E-commerce, as proposed by India. As was done in previous Ministerial Conferences, an existing moratorium on imposing customs duties on electronic transmission was extended for two years along with another moratorium on TRIPS non-violation complaints, which, *inter alia*, prevents 'ever-greening' of patents in the pharmaceuticals sector, thereby ensuring accessibility and affordability of generic medicines.

Ministerial Decisions on new issues like Investment Facilitation, MSMEs, gender and trade, which lacked a mandate or consensus, were not taken forward.

In the meeting, India made efforts to obtain a permanent solution to the issue of public stockholding for food security purposes. On the issue of Agricultural Domestic Support, India was of the view that the WTO Agreement on Agriculture provides considerable flexibility to the developed members to provide huge subsidies and further, to concentrate these subsidies on a few products. This asymmetry needs to be addressed as a first step in agricultural reform without, however, shifting the burden of reduction of agricultural subsidies to developing countries.

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2270(H)**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 01<sup>st</sup> JANUARY, 2018**

**TEMPORARY LICENSING ON IMPORTS**

2270(H). SHRI RAMESH BIDHURI:

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

- (a) whether the Government contemplates to implement temporary licensing on selected items in view of the imports via China;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government and other agencies monitor the quantity of imports in view of the decline in the prices of goods; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सी. आर. चौधरी)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)

(a) & (b): No Madam. There is no proposal at this stage to implement temporary licensing on selected items for import from China.

(c) & (d): As a founding member of WTO, India supports the cause free trade. Quantity and price of goods are governed by forces of demand and supply. Government, however, keeps a tab on the quantity and prices of goods. The Director General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics (DGCI&S), headquartered in Kolkata, compiles data with regard to quantity and prices of import and export of all goods. Government utilises this data for policy intervention, whenever necessary.

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2277(H)**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 01<sup>st</sup> JANUARY, 2018**

**POLICY ON SPICES**

2277(H). PROF. RAVINDRA VISHWANATH GAIKWAD:

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

- (a) whether the Government has formulated a new industrial policy on export and import of spices;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government provided subsidy to spices manufacturers and traders on export and import of spices;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to promote spices manufacturing companies?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सी. आर. चौधरी)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)

(a)&(b): No Madam. However, Foreign Trade Policy (2015-20) evolved by the Ministry of Commerce & Industry covers the export and import of agricultural commodities including spices.

(c) & (e): The Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS) implemented by the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) to offset infrastructural inefficiencies and associated costs involved in exporting goods/ products which are produced/manufactured in India are available for exporters including Spices. DGFT also provides duty exemption for import of spices for value addition and re-exports under Advance Authorization Scheme to spices manufacturers and traders.

Under the Integrated Scheme for Export Promotion & Quality Improvement in Spices and Research & Development of Cardamom, assistance is provided to spice manufacturing companies by Spices Board which inter alia includes setting up of hi-tech equipments, technology upgradation, setting up/upgradation of in-house labs, quality certification, spice parks for common processing etc.

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2291**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 01<sup>st</sup> JANUARY, 2018**

**IMPORT-EXPORT OF PEPPER**

2291. SHRI ANTO ANTONY

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

- (a) whether the Government has any statistics regarding the import and export of Pepper taking place in the country;
- (b) if so, the details of import and export of Pepper taken place during the last five years, year-wise and country-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has taken note of the report that import of pepper from Sri Lanka to India is higher than their production; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government in this regard?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सी. आर. चौधरी)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)

(a)&(b): The major country-wise export and import of pepper during the last five years is given at **Annexure I** and **Annexure II** respectively.

(c) &(d): An analysis of the data regarding the production of pepper in Sri Lanka during the last three years and import of pepper into India from Sri Lanka during the same period shows that the import of pepper from Sri Lanka into India was much less than their production.

Representations have been received from traders/growers associations of pepper in the country regarding alleged import of low quality pepper into India from Vietnam through Sri Lanka. Since most of the pepper producing countries are in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) region, the stakeholders have raised apprehensions of routing the pepper produced in ASEAN countries including Vietnam to India through Sri Lanka, by utilizing the provisions of India Sri Lanka Free Trade Agreement (ISLFTA) and Agreement on South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA).

In order to stop the possibility of inferior quality pepper of other countries entering into India through Sri Lanka to take duty advantage and to stabilize the domestic prices of pepper, Government has fixed the CIF value of Rs.500/- per kg as Minimum Import Price for Black Pepper vide DGFT Notification dated 6/12/2017.

Sri Lankan Authorities have been requested to exercise extreme care and diligence in issuing the Certificates of Origin under ISLFTA and SAFTA. Government of Sri Lanka has informed that Sri Lanka Customs along with Ministry of Primary Industries and National Quarantine Service have introduced a new procedure with the aim of preventing Sri Lankan exporters from obtaining SAFTA or ISLFTA Certificates of Origin issued by the Department for third-country black pepper shipments destined to India.

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**ANNEXURE-I**

**MAJOR COUNTRY-WISE EXPORT OF PEPPER FROM INDIA (QTY IN M.T; VALUE IN RS.LAKHS)**

Major Countries	QTY	VALUE	QTY	VALUE	QTY	VALUE	QTY	VALUE	QTY	VALUE
U.S.A	7177.77	29589.56	9557.13	42069.33	9683.99	54465.30	10740.47	65-3	M □ □	

(Est): Estimate

Source : DGCI&S Kolkata/Exporters' Returns/DLE from Customs

**ANNEXURE-II**

**COUNTRY-WISE IMPORT OF PEPPER INTO INDIA**

Est) Estimate

Source : DGCI&S Kolkata/DLI from Customs

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2292**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 01<sup>st</sup> JANUARY, 2018**

**EXPORT OF RICE AND WHEAT**

2292. SHRI RAGHAV LAKHANPAL:  
SHRI DEEPENDER SINGH HOODA:

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

- (a) the total quantity and value of rice including basmati rice and wheat exported from the country annually during the last five years and the current year;
- (b) the details of India's share in the global market for basmati rice as an exporter and the details of other basmati rice exporting countries indicating their share in global trade of basmati;
- (c) whether there is an increase/ decline in the export of basmati rice from the country during the last three years and if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether there have been instances of dumping of agricultural products in the country from various countries and if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken to prevent such incidents and make the country self reliant in terms of agricultural products; and
- (e) the measures taken by the Government to ensure the minimum price to wheat and rice farmers in the country and to ensure regular supply of food grains in the domestic market?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सी. आर. चौधरी)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)

- (a) The details of total quantity and value of rice, including basmati rice, and wheat exported from the country, annually during the last five years and the current year, are as under:

Quantity in Lakh MT; Value in US\$ Million

Product	2012-13		2013-14		2014-15		2015-16		2016-17		2017-18 (Apr - Nov)	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Basmati Rice	34.60	3,564.04	37.57	4,866.30	37.02	4,518.11	40.46	3,477.98	39.85	3,216.59	26.22	2,610.70
Non Basmati Rice	66.88	2,651.97	71.33	2,917.76	82.74	3,334.71	64.65	2,368.64	67.71	2,531.47	55.70	2,295.20
Wheat	65.15	1,934.24	55.62	1,566.49	29.24	828.76	6.67	164.22	2.66	67.24	1.80	47.20

Source: DGCI&S

- (b) Other than India, basmati rice is produced and exported only by Pakistan. As per trade sources, share of India in global market for basmati rice is about 85%, the balance 15% being from Pakistan.
- (c) Due to increase in the cultivated area and higher production of basmati rice in India during Kharif 2014 and Kharif 2015, prices in the global market were lower. Therefore, there was decline in export realisation of Basmati rice during 2015-16 and 2016-17, in value terms. However, the prices of basmati rice have picked up during the past one year and there is a growth of about 30% in the current year, as compared to the same period in the previous year.
- (d) The Government has not received any reports of dumping of agricultural products in the country. The Directorate General of Anti-dumping and Allied Duties has not received any application for imposition of anti-dumping duty on agricultural products.
- (e) To ensure remunerative prices for wheat and rice farmers, the Government annually fixes Minimum Support Price (MSP) for wheat and rice and carries out procurement operations, if required. In order to increase production of rice and wheat in the country, the Government of India is implementing, through State Governments, several crop Development Schemes/Programmes such as National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India (BGREI) National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA), Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY), etc.

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2300(H)**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 01<sup>st</sup> JANUARY, 2018**

**STUDY FOR BETTER CO-ORDINATION BETWEEN MINISTRIES**

2300(H). SHRI PANKAJ CHAUDHARY:

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

- (a) whether the Ministry has been assigned the task to conduct a study for better co-ordination between Union Ministries for speeding up the development and transport facilities of international standard by the Government and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Ministry has conducted any survey in this regard and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the Ministry has submitted its reports to the Government and if not, the time by which the report is expected to be submitted?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सी. आर. चौधरी)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)

- (a): The Second Schedule of the Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules, 1961, was amended on 7<sup>th</sup> July, 2017 and the subject “Integrated Development of Logistics Sector” was allocated to the Department of Commerce under Ministry of Commerce & Industry. Accordingly, a Logistics Division has been set up in the Department of Commerce.
- (b): No, Madam.
- (c): Does not arise.

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