

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5843
ANSWERED ON:03.05.2002
ENHANCE IMPORT DUTY ON SILK
IQBAL AHMED SARADGI

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government have decided to enhance import duty on silk to protect silk growers;
- (b) if so, whether the Union Government have recommended levy of import duty to the Finance Ministry;
- (c) whether the imposing import duty on silk does not come under the purview of World Trade Organization; and
- (d) if so, the time by which final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR)

- (a) & (b) In the general budget announced for 2002-2003 the import duty of silk has been reduced to 35.20% from 40.40% in 2001-2002. This Ministry has requested Ministry of Finance for maintaining the import duty of silk at the level of 40.40%.
- (c) & (d) Imposition of a particular rate of duty, as long as it does not exceed the tariff binding committed to by a Member of World Trade Organization (WTO), does not come within the purview of the WTO. As silk has no tariff binding, this is not an issue.