

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:588
ANSWERED ON:09.07.2004
WORKING OF CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT
Chowdhury Shri Adhir Ranjan

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the appraisers in the custom department posted at various ICD in Delhi do not clear inputs imported for export production on Saturdays;
- (b) if so, the justification for such practice;
- (c) whether exporters are asked to get confirmation letters for their advance licenses issued before registration by these appraisers; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to reduce transaction costs for clearance of inputs required for export production?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S.PALANIMANICKAM)

- (a) & (b): No, Sir. The import sheds at the three Commissionerates of Delhi - Air Cargo (Import & General), Air Cargo (Export) and Internal Container Depots are kept operational on all Saturdays except Second Saturdays. On all Saturdays except Second Saturdays, appraisers examine & clear import cargo including import of inputs for export production.
- (b) Yes, Sir. Confirmation letters in respect of Advance Licences are obtained before their registration by the customs as a precaution against forgery of the licences.
- (d) Some of the major steps taken to reduce transaction cost of inputs for export production are, introduction of the EDI system and reduction in the number of documents required to be submitted for export incentive schemes.