

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2788
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2010
IMPORT OF MARBLE H
Kaswan Shri Ram Singh

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

- (a) whether any marble import policy has been formulated for protecting the interests of small and medium entrepreneurs;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any quota of imported marble block has been allotted to big entrepreneurs vis-a- vis the small and medium entrepreneurs; and
- (d) if so, the details of quota allotted to them, separately and the corrective steps proposed to be taken to ensure equitable quota to them?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA)

(a) to (d): A unified marble import policy and the procedure laid thereunder, was notified vide DGFT Notification No. 15 dated 15.10.09 and Notification No. 16 & Policy Circular No. 12, both dated 23.10.09, details of which are available in the Public domain on website <http://dgft.gov.in>. This present marble import policy has evolved as an improvement in the earlier Policy, based on the interactions with the stake holders, and on Inter-Ministerial deliberations. This policy is more broad based and reasonable, to cover a larger number of domestic processors, having their own marble gang saw machines, and who have shown consistent performance in their domestic sales turn over, in the past years. This unified policy not only permits inclusion of new units every year, but also ensures uniformity in allocation for a large number of domestic processors having capability both to import themselves, as well as to process rough marble. As a result of this new unified policy, the number of beneficiaries has gone up to 164 (including a majority of small and medium enterprises), as compared to the limited number of around 30 beneficiaries under the erstwhile Special Import Licence (SIL) based marble import policy.