

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2376

ANSWERED ON:09.08.2010

IMPORT OF SENSITIVE COMMODITIES

Majumdar Shri Prasanta Kumar;Rajbhar Shri Ramashankar;Yadav Shri Hukamdeo Narayan

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

- (a) whether substantial increase in the import of sensitive commodities including food items has been registered in the country during the year 2009-10;
- (b) if so, the details and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether any evaluation about the impact of such imports on the domestic producers has been done;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the names of the commodities whose import has increased along with the names of the countries from which such commodities are imported; and
- (f) the steps being taken to protect the interest of domestic producer due to such imports?

Answer

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

(a) to (f) : The import of sensitive commodities including food items for the period 2009-2010 was Rs. 65564.59 crores as compared to Rs.46667.04 crores during 2008-2009.

Imports of edible oil, pulses, fruits & vegetables (including nuts), rubber, spices, milk & milk products, tea & coffee and food grains have shown increase at broad group level. The major countries from which there is increase in imports of sensitive items are Indonesia, China, Brazil, Myanmar, Malaysia, Korea RP, United States of America, Japan, Canada, Argentina, Ukraine, Thailand, Australia, Czech Republic.

The Government closely monitors the economic developments in the country and internationally on a continuous basis, and need based measures are taken, from time to time, keeping in view the financial and overall economic implications. Any domestic concern arising out of increased imports are addressed by appropriate action under the provisions of the Agreement of Implementation of Article VI of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, 1994, the Agreement on Safeguards and the Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures of the WTO.