

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
FINANCE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2844  
ANSWERED ON:24.07.2009  
IMPORT DUTY ON COTTON  
Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram

**Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:**

(a) whether demand for increase in import duty of cotton has been received by the Government from the various national level Agricultural Organisations during the recent time; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government thereon?

**Answer**

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

(a) After withdrawal of import duty on cotton with effect from 8th July,2008,Government received a representation from the Gujarat State Co-Operative Cotton Federation Ltd. Government also received representations from

- (i) Bharatiya Kisan Sangh, Junagadh,
- (ii) Bharatiya Kisan Sangh, Medarda, Junagadh, and
- (iii) Bharatiya Kisan Sangh, Porbandar.

(b) The Gujarat State Co-Operative Cotton Federation Ltd. Requested to restrict import duty exemption on cotton only upto 30th September, 2008, while, Bharatiya Kisan Sangh, Junagadh, Bharatiya Kisan Sangh, Medarda, Junagadh, and Bharatiya Kisan Sangh, Porbandar requested to re-impose import duty on cotton. The requests were examined and taking into consideration the increase in Minimum Support Price (MSP) of cotton announced by the Government for the cotton season 2008-09 and also the interests of domestic textile industry, it was not found feasible to accede to the requests.