

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4177

ANSWERED ON:29.08.2011

PAPER INDUSTRY

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

- (a) whether Government proposes to provide subsidy and funds from technology upgradation fund to the Indian paper Industry on the lines of textile industry;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is a huge gap between demand and supply of newsprint in the country at present;
- (d) if so, the details of production / consumption of the paper in the country during the last three years;
- (e) whether India is importing high quality paper/packaging paper from various countries due to lack of indigenous production of high quality paper;
- (f) if so, the details thereof alongwith quantum of papers imported during the last three years and the current year; and
- (g) the steps taken / being taken by the Government to manufacture high quality paper so as to cut down the imports?

**Answer**

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

(a): No, Madam. There is no technology upgradation fund for the paper industry.

(b): Does not arise.

(c) & (d): The indigenous supply of newsprint meets about 50% of the total demand of newsprint in the country. The production and consumption of newsprint for the last three years is as follows.

(In Tons)		
2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
ESTIMATE		

PRODUCTION 1088058 912656 959735

CONSUMPTION 2057328 1752797 2168326

(Source – CMIE)

(e) & (f): High quality paper including packaging paper is manufactured in the country. The details of import of speciality and packaging paper for the period from 2007-2008 to 2009-2010 are as under:

(Thousand tons)		
2007-08	2008-09	2009-10

Speciality Papers 22 25 28

Packaging Papers 46 52 72

(Source: (CMIE)

(g): The paper industry is delicensed and decisions regarding setting up of industries and their product mix are determined by the market forces of demand & supply.