

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3570  
ANSWERED ON:03.09.2012  
EXPORT AND IMPORT OF MEDICINES  
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**Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether Indian drug manufacturers are heavily dependent on import of cheap drugs including the life saving penicillin drugs from China and Mexico;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the names of medicines exported and imported during each of the last three years and the current year, country-wise;
- (d) the amount of foreign exchange earned from and spent on such trade during the said period;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to increase the export of medicines and drugs etc. and make Indian drug manufacturers self-reliant; and
- (f) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this direction?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (d) : India is a large importer of pharmaceutical products from various countries in the world including China and Mexico. India's country-wise exports and imports of drugs, pharmaceuticals and fine chemicals is attached at Annexure-I & Annexure-II respectively. India's total exports and imports of drugs, pharmaceuticals and fine chemicals during the last three years is under:

Values in Rs. Crore

Year	Export	Import
2009-10	42455.66	9959.00
2010-11	48810.26	11113.86
2011-12	63347.32#	14384.88#

Source : DGCI&S

# The figures for 2011-12 are provisional and subject to change.

(e) & (f) : India is recognized world over for its low cost manufacturing capabilities and is a globally acknowledged source of high quality affordable generic medicines. Department of Commerce is implementing a strategy for increasing Pharma exports to US\$ 25 billion by 2014. Government provides assistance under Market Development Assistance (MDA) Scheme and Market Access Initiative (MAI) Scheme to Indian exporters, including exporters of pharmaceutical products. Besides this, incentives to Pharmaceutical industry are available in various trade promotion schemes under the Foreign Trade Policy. A special Brand India Pharma campaign has also been launched in focus markets with the objective of promoting India as a source of affordable, quality generics.