

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:95

ANSWERED ON:12.08.2013

IMPORT OF ARECANUT

Antony Shri Anto;Kateel Shri Nalin Kumar

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

- (a) the quantum of arecanut imported in the country during each of the last three years and the current year, value and country-wise;
- (b) whether the Ministry has received reports/complaints that a huge quantum of imported arecanut is lying in various ports of the country waiting for clearance and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, quantum and port-wise;
- (c) the action taken by the Ministry thereon;
- (d) whether the Government has received representations regarding imposition of ban on import of arecanut from various countries; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ANAND SHARMA)

a)to e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 95 FOR ANSWER ON 12TH AUGUST, 2013 REGARDING "IMPORT OF ARECANUT"

(a) Total quantum of Areca Nut imported during each of the last three years and the current year, value and country-wise is as under:

| (Value in Indian Rupees Lakhs) | | | | |
|--------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|------------------------------------|
| COUNTRY | 2010-11 | 2011-12 | 2012-13 | April 2013 & May2013 (provisional) |
| AFGHANISTAN | 18.22 | | | |
| BANGLADESH | 11653.04 | 20231.07 | 52800.31 | 12871.76 |
| CHINA | 27.11 | 9.39 | | |
| DENMARK | 0.085 | | | |
| GERMANY | 0.12 | | | |
| INDONESIA | 5205.03 | 3040.05 | 1668.73 | 125.33 |
| MALAYSIA | 0.47 | | | |
| MYANMAR | 368.64 | 92.41 | 2132.45 | 373.95 |
| NEPAL | 7152.08 | 2926.21 | 311.65 | |
| PAKISTAN | 7.71 | 15.87 | | |
| SRILANKA | 1079.30 | 1426.26 | 3595.55 | 891.98 |
| TANZANIA | 5.89 | 13.99 | | |
| THAILAND | 312.57 | 55.47 | 733.76 | |
| UAE | 98.63 | 9.13 | | |
| USA | 0.16 | 3.91 | | |
| VIETNAM | 4.77 | | | |
| TOTAL | 25882.52 | 27813.77 | 61278.61 | 14288.30 |

(b)& (c): Government has not received any such reports.

(d)& (e) Representations have been received seeking higher minimum import price (MIP), to strengthen measures to check illegal imports and also to impose ban on import of arecanut to protect the interests of farmers. Government has considered these representations and decided to enhance the Minimum Import Price (CIF value) of Arecanut from Rs.75/- Kg to Rs.110/- Kg with effect from 13.5.2013.