

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3029

ANSWERED ON:07.08.2015

Import of Chinese Idols and Toys

Chavan Shri Harishchandra Deoram

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

- a) whether the Government has taken note of import of idols of Hindu Gods/Goddess and children's toys from China in large quantities in the country during the recent years and their illegal availability in the market in the country;
- b) if so, the details thereof indicating the average annual quantum and value of idols and toys imported during the last three years;
- c) the number of incidents of illegal availability of such items in the Indian market reported during the said period and the action taken thereon;
- d) the reaction of the Government thereto including prohibition/restrictions imposed or proposed to be imposed on import of such items into the country;
- e) whether orders for import of idols and toys had already been given to Chinese manufacturers but were not completed due to the ban imposed by the Government; and
- f) if so, the estimated financial loss suffered by Indian traders as a result thereof?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a) & (b): Goods are imported into the country as per import policy laid down in Indian Trade Classification (Harmonised System) [ITC(HS)] Classification of Export and Import Items, 2012. The import policy for import of toys is "free". Idols of Gods / Goddesses are not separately classified under ITC (HS), 2012, Schedule – I (Import Policy). Although freely importable, imports of toys, dolls, reduced size-models etc. under Chapter 95 of ITC (HS), 2012, are subject to fulfilment of certain standards /conditions. Details of import of Articles of stone/ other mineral substances, Statuettes, toys during the last three years and the current year from China are annexed.

(c) : No such incident of illegal availability of such items in the Indian market has been reported during the recent years.

(d): As per India's commitment in the World Trade Organisation (WTO), Quantitative Restrictions have been removed and most items are freely importable. Restrictions on import/export of certain items are imposed to protect human, animal or plant life or health; or protection of patents, trademarks and copyrights etc., as and when necessary.

(e) & (f): As the Government has not imposed any ban on import of idols and toys, the question does not arise.

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