

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:316
ANSWERED ON:11.07.2014
IMPORT OF GOLD JEWELLERY
Kateel Shri Nalin Kumar

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

- (a) the total quantum and value of gold jewellery imported from various countries, particularly from Thailand during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (b) the incentives/facilities provided by the Government for such import;
- (c) whether there is an increase in the import of gold jewellery from Thailand as compared to other countries;
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to suspend import of gold jewellery from certain countries, particularly from Thailand; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

(a) The total quantum and value of gold jewellery imported from various countries (top four) particularly from Thailand during each of the last three years, is given below:-

Import of Gold Jewellery									
% growth									
COUNTRY	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	QTY	2012-13/	% growth	QTY		
	2011-12	2013-14/							
	2012-13								
QTY	VAL	QTY	VAL	QTY	VAL	(Rs.cr	QTY	VAL	(Rs.crore)
(KG)	(Rs.cr	(KG)	(Rs.cr	(KG)	ore)	(KG)			
ore)	ore)								
HONG KONG	3894	1458.01	2878	2968.71	505	225.65	-26.1	-82.5	
THAILAND	2369	650.92	1822	588.21	351	100.46	-23.1	-80.7	
UARAB EMTS	1296	861.28	21674	22772.46	10773	2910.73	1572.4	-50.3	
U S A	1294	409.75	1217	492.36	854	388.13	-6	-29.8	
TOTAL	8853	3748.48	27591	27218.6	12483	4152.17	211.7	-54.8	

Source : DGCI&S

(b) India and Thailand have signed a Framework Agreement for establishing an India-Thailand Free Trade Agreement on 09.10.2003. There is an Early Harvest Scheme under this Framework Agreement which covers certain items for concessional trade including gold jewellery. Thailand is also a part of ASEAN-India Agreement on Trade in Goods signed on 12.08.2009 where gold jewellery is included for concessional trade.

(c) & (d) No, there is no increase in the import of gold jewellery from Thailand since 2011-12, in fact import of gold jewellery from Thailand has come down.

(e) & (f) Since doubt has been raised about the accuracy of the information given on the Certificates of Origin issued by Thailand under Early Harvest Scheme, request has been made to Thailand for retroactive check of Certificates of Origin. In the meanwhile, the Department of Revenue has been advised to suspend preferential import of gold jewellery with identified tariff lines from Thailand. The Department of Revenue has been taking up cases for retroactive check with the Thai side on regular basis.