

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3279
ANSWERED ON:01.08.2014
IMPORT OF MEDICINES DRUGS
Kushawaha Shri Ravindra

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

- (a) the quantum and value of medicines/drugs imported during each of the last three years and the current year, country-wise;
- (b) whether India is largely dependent on China to meet the bulk requirement of various drugs including essential drugs;
- (c) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the export of medicines/ drugs is being affected adversely due to over emphasis of Indian pharmaceutical companies on manufacture of high cost drugs and value added products in the value chain of drug manufacturing; and
- (e) if so, the remedial measures taken/ proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

- (a) The quantum and value of medicines/drugs imported during each of the last three years and the current year, country-wise may be seen at Annexure-I.
- (b) & (c) No, Madam. The Indian pharma industry is self-sufficient in production of majority of formulations / pharmaceutical products. The imports are being resorted to for economic consideration and not necessarily due to non-availability from domestic sources.
- (d) There is no information available about any adverse effects on export of medicines/drugs, due to overemphasis of Indian pharmaceutical companies on manufacturing of high cost drugs and value added products. The pharmaceutical companies in India manufacture both high cost and low cost drugs.
- (e) Question does not arise.