

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1116  
ANSWERED ON:28.11.2014  
FTA PROVISIONS  
Somaiya Dr. Kirit

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of the observations, concern raised by Indian industries, particularly, Metal Industries regarding custom duty concession/exemption extended to various projects/industries under Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with ASEAN countries;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether as per FTA, the exemption extended to import copper products such as Copper Cathodes, Copper Rods, Copper Scrap, Brass and Zinc Ingots has negatively impacted Indian industries;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the protective measures taken by the Government to protect Metal industries in the country?

**Answer**

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

- (a) to (b): Some industries and associations have indicated their sensitivities on products in the metal industries (including copper) due to imports from FTA partners.
- (c) to (e) The share of preferential imports under Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) to the total imports for copper products during the period 2013-14 is insignificant. Moreover, for protecting the interest of the domestic including metal industries, these agreements provide for maintaining sensitive/negative lists of items on which limited or no tariff concessions are granted. In addition, in case of a surge in imports and injury to the domestic industry, a country is allowed to take recourse to the measures such as anti-dumping and safeguards.