

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY  
(DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE)

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1301(H)**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 11<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY, 2019**

**BAN ON IMPORT AND SALE OF KITE STRINGS (MANJHA)**

1301(H). SHRIMATI TABASSUM BEGUM:

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE & INDUSTRY (वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री )** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of measures to be taken by the Government to check the untimely deaths of children and commuters resulting from accidents due to chinese kite-flying strings (Manjha);
- (b) whether the Government proposes to ban the import and sale of Chinese kiteflying strings (Manjha) in the domestic market; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof along with the steps being taken by the Government in regard to the illegally imported Chinese kite-flying strings (Manjha)?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सी. आर. चौधरी)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)

[a] to [c]: Items are imported into India based on their classification under the Indian Trade Classification [Harmonized System], 2017 according to their characteristics. Import data on Plastic/Synthetic thread shows that it is imported under 4 different Chapter Heads i.e Chapter 39, 54, 55 and 56 of ITC(HS)2017. In addition, as Kite Flying Kit [Toy] containing such thread, it may find entry under Chapter 95 of ITC [HS]. These items are also produced domestically. However, abrasive string used for Kites [Manjha] is not classified separately, under any specific HS Code. As such separate import data and other related information is not available.

Accordingly, despite some reports of injuries to humans, animals and birds in some parts of the country, it has not been found feasible to regulate/restrict import of synthetic/plastic threads alone, which may have multiple uses, without imposing similar restriction/regulation on domestic sources, as it would violate India's commitments to the WTO. Moreover, Chinese manjha is a loose description, given to Kite threads made of Nylon and may not necessarily be imported from China.

However, as retail trade is a state subject, the State Governments have been requested to take appropriate action in the matter. As per the information available some State Government including NCT of Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra have banned procuring/distribution/sale/use of Nylon thread and other synthetic non-biodegradable threads used for kite flying.

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