

Import of Chemicals and Petrochemicals

1537. SHRI PATEL HASMUKHBHAI SOMABHAI:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- a) Whether import of chemicals and petrochemicals has increased during the last five years;
- b) If so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- c) Whether the Government plans to increase incentives to increase exports;
- d) Whether the Government plans to increase import duty to cut down imports; and
- e) If so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER FOR CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA)

- (a) & (b): Yes Sir, The import of chemicals and petrochemicals has increased during the last five years. The data of imports of major Chemicals and Petrochemicals monitored by the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals for the last five years is as under:

Year	Imports (000 MTs)
2014-15	10105
2015-16	11041
2016-17	11338
2017-18	12345
2018-19	12663

It may be seen that imports of Chemicals & Petrochemicals has been increasing during the last five years. This increase of imports of chemicals & petrochemicals is due to insufficient domestic production capacity to meet the growing domestic demand, comparatively higher cost of production in the country, also due to comparatively smaller scale of operations.

(c) : The government has no plan to increase exports incentives under the Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS).

(d) & (e) : Currently, there is no proposal under consideration of Department of Revenue to increase import duty to cut down imports.
