

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1770  
ANSWERED ON:08.08.2006  
IMPORT OF EDIBLE ITEMS  
Bose Shri Subrata

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

- (a) the quantity of edible items imported during each of the last three years and the current year alongwith foreign exchange incurred thereon, country-wise;
- (b) the reasons for import of these edibles; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to reduce the import of these items?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY ( SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

- (a) The country-wise details of import of edible items are given in the publication ' Monthly Statistics of Foreign Trade of India; Volume-II (Imports) Annual Number' published by Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, which is available in the library of the Parliament.
- (b) &(c) Foreign Trade regime has ensured access to imports which are essential for meeting the requirements of exports, consumption, growth and development. However, all imports are subject to applicable rate of customs duties and also to domestic laws, rules, orders, regulations, technical specifications and environmental safety norms as applicable for domestically produced edible goods. Import duties on a number of edible items have been increased to regulate imports, wherever necessary.