

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4473

ANSWERED ON:19.12.2014

SALE OF CHINESE CRACKERS

Antony Shri Anto ;Patel Shri Devji Mansingram;Singh Shri Lallu

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

- (a) whether the Government has banned/proposes to ban the import of Chinese crackers in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has taken note of import of such crackers in large quantities in the country during the previous years and its illegal availability in Indian market during the recent Diwali festival;
- (d) if so, the average annual quantum and value of crackers imported during the last three years;
- (e) the number of incidents of illegal availability in the Indian market reported and the action taken thereon;
- (f) whether orders for import of crackers had already been given to Chinese manufacturers but were not completed due to the ban imposed by the Government; and g) if so, the estimated financial loss suffered by Indian traders as a result thereof?

Answer

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

- (a)&(b) Import of foreign made crackers is restricted. Import can be made only on the basis of an import authorisation. No authorisation has been issued by the Directorate General of Foreign Trade for import of crackers, including from China.
- (c) Few cases of such import have been detected by the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence and Customs.
- (d) No import of "fireworks"(HS Code-36041000) has taken place from China during the last 3 years.
- (e) Five cases of illegal import of firecrackers have been reported by the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence and Customs. The regional offices of the Directorate General of Foreign Trade have issued Show Cause Notices to the firms who have imported crackers illegally. Public Notice was also published in some newspapers that storing and sale of foreign made crackers is illegal.
- (f)&(g) Government does not have any information in this regard.