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Title: Need to restore 30% of custom duty on import of silk.

SHRI R. DHRUVANARAYANA (CHAMARAJANAGAR): Hon. Speaker Madam, I want to raise an important issue regarding a problem faced by domestic sericulture industry as well Indian sericulture farmers. Madam, India is the second largest silk producing country in the world after China and the state of Karnataka stands first in the production of silk, quantity-wise as well area-wise. During the Central Budget 2012-13, customs duty on silk i.e. import duty was reduced from 30 per cent to 5 per cent. This reduction in import duty on silk adversely affected our domestic sericulture industry as well as sericulture farmers. During the Central Budget 2013-14, import duty on silk was raised from 5 per cent to 15 per cent against the request from the State Government of Karnataka. This import duty of 15 per cent is not enough. My humble request to the Textile Ministry is to kindly get the import duty on import of silk enhanced from 15 per cent to 30 per cent to safeguard the domestic sericulture industry as well as Indian sericulture farmers.

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Gaurav Gogoi, Shri S.P. Muddahanume Gowda, Shri D.K. Suresh and Shri B.N. Chandrappa are permitted to associate with the matters raised by Shri R. Dhruvanarayana.