

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 534
ANSWERED ON 29/11/2024

INCREASE IN IMPORT FROM UAE

534. SHRI A. D. SINGH:

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

- (a) whether import of Silver / Platinum Alloy and Dry Dates from UAE has increased tremendously, particularly, Silver which has increased from USD 29 million to USD 1.7 billion;
- (b) if so, the reasons for this sudden increase in import;
- (c) whether there are cases of circumventing the rules under FTA signed between India and UAE;
- (d) if so, the details in this regard; and
- (e) whether Government has asked Government of UAE to review certain provisions of FTA to rationalise the import, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI JITIN PRASADA)

- (a) The import of silver, platinum alloy and dry dates from UAE during last two years is given as below:

Item of import	2022-2023 (USD/million)	2023-2024 (USD/million)
Silver (HS-7106)	29.23	1739.76
Platinum (HS-7110)	1161.29	12.43
Dry Dates (HS-0804)	96.31	137.98

Source : DGC&IS

- (b) Imports, including those of silver, platinum alloy and dry dates, are governed, *inter alia*, by prevailing tariff structure, gap between domestic demand and supply and domestic regulations on foreign trade.

- (c) The India-UAE Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) covers, *inter alia*, provisions related to Trade in Goods, Rules of Origin, Trade in Services, Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT), Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) measures. Department of Commerce along with relevant Ministries/Departments is closely reviewing all implementation issues under CEPA.

(d) CEPA provides procedures for verifying correct implementation of various rules/provisions which are invoked as appropriate to ensure that rules of origin are adhered.

(e) CEPA provides for an India-UAE Joint Committee which reviews, assesses, monitors the results and overall operation of the provisions of the Agreement and also considers and recommends any amendments to this Agreement and modification of concessions made under the Agreement. The second meeting of the Joint Committee was held in October, 2024 wherein various implementation issues were raised.
