

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2790(H)
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20th MARCH, 2017

DISCONTINUATION OF AGRO IMPORTS

2790(H). PROF. CHINTAMANI MALVIYA:

DR. RAVINDRA KUMAR RAY:

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE & INDUSTRY** (वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री) be pleased to state:

- (a) the total quantity and value of soyabean, potato and double dollar chana imported and exported by the Government during the last three years and the current year, year-wise;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to discontinue import of these products keeping in view the interests of farmers; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण) (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)

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

- (a) The total quantity and value of soyabean, potato and chana imported and exported by the Government during the last three years and the current year, year-wise, is given below:

Import:

Item	2013-14		2014-15		2015-16		2016-17 * (April to December)	
	Quantity (in Tonne)	Value (in Rs. Lakh)	Quantity (in Tonne)	Value (in Rs. Lakh)	Quantity (in Tonne)	Value (in Rs. Lakh)	Quantity (in Tonne)	Value (in Rs. Lakh)
Chana (Chickpeas)	276131	84283	418877	133496	1031487	445372	421017	259257
Potato	863	98	0	0	0	0	0	0
Soyabean	515	292	6312	2343	20712	8190	52229	18102

Source: DGCI&S / * Provisional

Export:

Item	2013-14		2014-15		2015-16		2016-17* (April to December)	
	Quantity (in Tonne)	Value (in Rs. Lakh)	Quantity (in Tonne)	Value (in Rs. Lakh)	Quantity (in Tonne)	Value (in Rs. Lakh)	Quantity (in Tonne)	Value (in Rs. Lakh)
Chana (Chickpeas)	333806	167675	190226	102157	217056	133764	61209	57450
Potato	224706	25592	393594	84397	280469	36622	236489	44192
Soyabean	162523	74471	223874	99266	185860	82806	108525	46589

Source: DGCI&S / * Provisional

(b)& (c): No, Madam. Presently, there is no proposal to discontinue import of soyabean, potato and chana. Frequent changes in import/export policy measures create a situation of uncertainty and undermine credibility of the country as a reliable source. Discontinuing/banning import/exports at slightest indication of increase in prices or bumper production of agricultural products in the country is also undesirable in view of our increasing integration with world trade and our commitment to international organizations like the WTO. It is prudent to pursue a long term, stable and predictable policy regarding Agri-exports or imports by minimizing short term and ad-hoc decisions.
