

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2504
TO BE ANSWERED ON 31st JULY, 2017

IMPORT-EXPORT OF DRUGS

2504. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI:

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

- (a) the quantum and value of medicines/drugs imported during each of the last three years and current year, country-wise;
- (b) whether India is largely dependent on import particularly from China to meet the bulk of the requirement of various drugs including essential drugs and Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs);
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the measures taken by Government to boost export of medicines/ drugs and encourage the Indian pharmaceutical companies to increase their production so as to reduce dependence on imports?

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 value of medicines/drugs imported into the country along with the quantity for top 30 countries during the last three years and the current year is given at **Annexure-I**.

(b) & (c): The estimated production of bulk drugs by indigenous drug manufacturing companies in 2016 was US\$ 11.7 billion. Indian drug manufacturers import pharmaceuticals including drug intermediates, bulk drugs and formulations from various countries. India imports substantial drugs and pharmaceuticals from China in the form of raw materials as well as finished products for both domestic consumption and exports. Out of India's total imports of medicines/drugs of US\$ 4.45 billion in 2016-17, imports from China was US\$ 1.96 billion (44.1%). One of the reasons for imports from China is the price competitiveness of these products.

(d): The Government is taking several measures to boost exports under Market Development Assistance (MDA) and Market Access Initiative (MAI) schemes. Financial assistance through Pharmexcil, an Export Promotion Council, is provided under MDA and

MAI Schemes by Department of Commerce to exporters of various pharmaceuticals products particularly small and medium size exporters to promote their exports in various countries. Incentives to pharmaceuticals industry are also available in various trade promotion schemes like Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS), Advance Authorization Scheme, DFIA (Duty Free Import Authorization) for import of raw materials and Export Promotion Capital Goods (EPCG) Scheme for import of Capital Goods etc.

Statement referred to in reply of part (a) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question no. 2504 for answer on 31st July 2017.

India's Imports of Medicines/Drugs from Top 30 Countries										
S. No.	Countries	Unit	2014-15		2015-16		2016-17 *		2017-18 (April-May)*	
			Quantity	Value (US \$ Millions)	Quantity	Value (US \$ Millions)	Quantity	Value (US \$ Millions)	Quantity	Value (US \$ Millions)
1	China P RP	KGS	154.15	2218.37	160.18	2265.88	171.06	1963.68	39.95	365.37
2	U S A	KGS	13.40	416.57	13.22	453.49	13.03	408.44	2.13	69.90
3	Germany	KGS	4.72	427.76	5.03	378.22	4.86	322.83	0.94	41.00
4	France	KGS	8.70	171.48	7.63	179.91	5.37	189.03	0.90	26.51
5	Italy	KGS	5.56	195.04	6.67	176.62	5.20	176.29	0.69	30.02
6	Switzerland	KGS	0.53	159.54	0.37	138.80	0.48	132.39	0.08	29.36
7	Denmark	KGS	0.10	98.96	0.04	93.94	0.06	112.50	0.01	12.10
8	Indonesia	KGS	15.52	142.64	16.77	154.48	18.57	109.28	5.16	11.71
9	U K	KGS	0.41	66.33	0.51	82.26	0.60	94.16	0.24	18.05
10	Spain	KGS	3.18	81.11	3.17	91.25	3.62	84.13	0.47	14.08
11	Singapore	KGS	5.37	43.38	16.48	92.73	19.02	81.73	3.62	10.39
12	Korea Rp	KGS	8.62	74.81	13.15	69.87	12.80	81.38	2.02	8.96
13	Belgium	KGS	9.91	89.30	0.33	80.39	0.38	78.05	0.12	12.40
14	Brazil	KGS	0.23	66.58	0.56	49.34	0.32	76.73	0.06	8.01
15	Netherland	KGS	1.74	96.48	3.54	82.31	6.21	72.94	1.10	11.04
16	Japan	KGS	7.48	73.57	9.10	73.87	7.40	59.17	1.40	7.83
17	Austria	KGS	0.71	26.42	0.61	28.62	0.83	45.86	0.33	11.53
18	Puerto Rico	KGS	0.01	9.20	0.25	31.37	0.24	39.36	0.06	8.87
19	Ireland	KGS	0.05	37.40	0.03	18.05	0.03	33.69	0.00	6.29
20	Taiwan	KGS	0.73	35.16	0.33	41.14	0.33	31.12	0.12	3.96
21	Hungary	KGS	0.01	15.10	0.01	22.26	0.02	29.87	0.00	2.95
22	Mexico	KGS	0.19	29.86	0.19	27.81	0.22	29.09	0.04	3.65
23	Israel	KGS	0.19	31.42	0.17	31.88	0.10	28.47	0.01	3.44
24	Australia	KGS	0.38	32.29	0.61	23.22	0.94	22.97	0.30	5.85
25	Malaysia	KGS	0.20	5.75	2.17	14.25	2.37	15.70	1.19	3.18
26	Thailand	KGS	12.45	22.05	13.65	21.31	10.17	14.82	2.14	3.40
27	Canada	KGS	0.06	16.56	0.03	15.55	0.06	14.42	0.00	0.94
28	Slovenia	KGS	0.03	33.00	0.02	25.20	0.02	10.79	0.01	0.40
29	Sweden	KGS	0.01	8.60	0.00	8.85	0.11	9.13	0.05	3.07
30	Nepal	KGS	2.71	11.08	3.00	10.94	3.18	8.40	0.50	1.45
Total of above 30 countries			257.34	4735.78	277.84	4783.84	287.59	4376.40	63.63	735.70
India's total imports of medicines/drugs			276.19	4865.75	284.09	4885.04	294.31	4454.12	64.63	755.28
% share of China in total medicines/drugs imports			55.81	45.59	56.38	46.38	58.12	44.09	61.80	48.38

Source: DGCI&S, Kolkata (* Provisional)