

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
DEPARTMENT OF PHARMACEUTICALS

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 463
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 19th December, 2017

Import of Drugs

463. SHRI RAGHAV LAKHANPAL:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the drug manufacturers in the country have been importing raw materials from various foreign countries;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the total value of drugs being imported in the country during each of the last three years and the current year, country-wise; and
- (d) the share of China in the total drugs imported into the country?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS;
MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
(SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA)**

(a) : Yes, Madam.

(b): The country imports bulk drugs/Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs) for producing medicines including certain essential medicines. As India is a signatory to the WTO and TRIPs agreement, as such the import restrictions have been removed. It may be mentioned that most of the imports of the Bulk Drug/APIs being done in the country are because of economic considerations.

(c): The details of India's imports of API from top five countries are as under:

Years	Total import (Rs. cr)	Imports from China (Rs. cr)	Imports from Germany (Rs. cr)	Imports from USA (Rs. cr)	Imports from Italy (Rs. cr)	Imports from Singapore (Rs. cr)
2014-15	19833.19	12757.96	1172.05	791.16	644.37	241.25
2015-16	21225.97	13853	1054.71	980.38	663.44	593.57
2016-17	18372.54	12254.97	485.11	820.18	701.85	422.01

(Source: DGCIS Kolkata)

(d): As per DGCIS Kolkata, during the year 2016-17, the share of China in the total bulk drugs imported into the country was approximately 66 per cent.