

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2248 (H)
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24th DECEMBER, 2018

IMPORT DUTY ON CHINESE IMPORTS

2248(H). SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:

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

- (a) whether the Government is considering to levy higher import duties to check import of Chinese goods;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is aware that Indian economy is getting affected due to Chinese goods; and
- (d) if so, the measures being taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सी. आर. चौधरी)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)

(a) & (b): Import duties are reviewed and changed by the Ministry of Finance only after extensive consultations with different stakeholders like line ministries, trade and industry, tariff commission etc. This review exercise is generally undertaken as a part of the budget formulation.

(c) & (d) : While foreign trade is integral to our economy, provisions exist to protect the domestic producers and consumers from unfair trade practices by China or any other economy. India has an elaborate and robust legal framework and institutional set up to protect its environment, life and health of its people, plants and animals. Adequate provisions exist under the Foreign Trade Policy to protect the Indian consumers and producers as imported goods are subject to domestic laws, rules, orders, regulations, technical specifications, environmental and safety norms. The BIS standards applicable to domestic goods are also applicable to imported goods. Import of food/edible items are subject to FSSAI standards. Import of plant & plant based products are subject to Plant Quarantine measures and sanitary & phyto-sanitary measures. Import of animal & animal based products are subject to sanitary import permits.

For imports causing injury to domestic industry, trade defence measures like anti-dumping duty, countervailing duty and safeguard duty area available. Whenever Indian industry is affected by cheaper imports, it can seek remedies from the Government under the above provisions. Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR) conducts anti-dumping investigations on the basis of duly substantiated petition filed by the domestic industry alleging dumping of goods into the country causing injury to the domestic industry. Similarly, DGTR conducts anti-subsidy investigations against countries subsidising their export products. As on 18.12.2018, anti-dumping duty is in force on 105 products imported from China. Section 8B of the Customs Tariff

Act, 1975, subject to certain conditions, empowers the Central Government to impose Safeguard Duty on any article imported into India in such increased quantities and under such conditions so as to cause or threaten to cause serious injury to the Indian domestic industry.
