

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
DEPARTMENT OF PHARMACEUTICALS**

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. †3698
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 17th March, 2020

Drug Import and Export

†3698. SHRI RAMCHARAN BOHRA:

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

- (a) the details regarding the quantity and cost of import and export of medicines/drugs during each of the last three years and the current year, country-wise;
- (b) whether the country is dependent on imports particularly from China to meet the heavy demand of essential medicines and Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the measures taken by the Government to encourage Indian Pharmaceutical companies to increase their production so as to reduce the dependency on imports and also to promote export of medicines/ drugs?

ANSWER

**MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS
(SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA)**

(a): The details of quantity and cost of import and export of medicines/drugs during each of the last three years and the current year, major country-wise is as following :

DRUG FORMULATIONS, BIOLOGICALS Import data from 2016-2019:

Country	2016-17 Volume (in Kgs)	2016-17 (Value in US \$)	2017-18 Volume (in Kgs)	2017-18 (Value in US \$)	2018-19 Volume (in Kgs)	2018-19 (Value in US \$)	2019-20 Volume (in Kgs) (April 19- Dec 19)	2019-20 (Value in US \$) (April 19- Dec 19)
USA	457463	285890 072	595831	3094826 18	683589	27017597 9	722982	23243531 6
Germany	553743	232268 654	842317	2074693 00	937470	20086166 3	750863	14968430 4
France	224924	141889 389	227511	1222867 86	401566	13166833 5	525783	11095074 7
China	800533	135207 004	129222 6	1287714 68	1704937	14949866 2	1495056	14729469 9
Switzerland	111900	105552 151	194362	1326658 26	521474	30204756 8	509253	21975965 7
Total Imports from all countries	4325475	166217 5762	914093 5	1840778 441	1903078 8	20185631 23	17914366	17671290 89

DRUG FORMULATIONS, BIOLOGICALS Export data from 2016-2019:

Country	2016-17 Volume (in Kgs)	2016-17 (Value in US \$)	2017-18 Volume (in Kgs)	2017-18 (Value in US \$)	2018-19 Volume (in Kgs)	2018-19 (Value in US \$)	2019-20 Volume (in Kgs) (April 19- Dec 19)	2019-20 (Value in US \$) (April 19- Dec 19)
USA	721699 19	505782 9263	674926 81	4601523 089	556305 76	532720 5621	40309985	43736750 242
UK	188100 63	439431 269	137722 56	4544503 41	113255 10	524317 178	6608351	32907494 1
South Africa	861314 0	389027 509	873811 9	4795308 49	844108 5	525454 816	5170803	39270135 4
China	354846	231784 36	520470	2676908 2	667317	331529 30	342458	31007724
Total Exports to all countries	352124 554	126664 40148	320564 438	1290909 3200	307467 690	143887 94412	18871393 4	12017224 892

(Source: DGCIS Kolkata)

(b) & (c): As per Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCIS) Kolkata, during the year 2018-19, the share of China in the total bulk drugs/APIs imported into the country was approximately 67 per cent. Some of these bulk drugs/APIs are also used for manufacturing essential medicines. The imports from China are mainly due to economic considerations. The details of India's imports of Bulk Drugs/ Drug Intermediates and Drug Formulations (including from China) are as under:

Import of Pharmaceutical products			
Item	Imports during 2018-19 (In US \$ mn)	Imports from China during 2018-19 (US \$ mn)	Percent of Imports from China
Bulk Drug, Drug Intermediate	3560.3	2405.42	67.56%
Drug Formulations, Biologicals	2018.56	149.49	7.40%

(d): The policies formulated by Government from time to time are designed to minimize country's dependence on imports and to give fillip to indigenous manufacturing. In this direction, with the objective to ensure drug security in the country by increasing the efficiency and competitiveness of domestic pharmaceutical industry the Department of Pharmaceuticals has prepared an umbrella scheme for Development of Pharmaceuticals Industry with the following sub-schemes: (a) Assistance to Bulk Drug Industry for Common Facility Centre; (b) Assistance to Medical Device Industry for Common Facility Centre; (c) Pharmaceuticals Technology Upgradation Assistance Scheme (PTUAS); (d) Assistance to Pharmaceutical Industry for Common Facilities; and (e) Pharmaceutical Promotion Development Scheme (PPDS).