GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF FINANCE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †1102

TO BE ANSWERED ON <u>FRIDAY 29TH APRIL</u>, <u>2016</u> 9 VAISAKHA, 1938 [SAKA]

Smuggling of Coral

†1102. SHRI NANA PATOLE:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken cognizance of the seizure of 15450 kilograms of banned coral in Delhi which had been smuggled from China;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of the legal action taken against the importers; and
- (d) the details of the steps taken by the Government to check these types of incidents which were responsible for growing trade deficit against China?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JAYANT SINHA)

- (a) Yes.
- (b) & (c) 15450 Kg. of goods identified as Organ Pipe Coral, valued at Rs.185.40 lakh as per the Indian market, imported illegally from China in February, 2016 were seized by Delhi Customs and the importer was arrested.
- (d) Custom formations have been sensitized to conduct examination to prevent and thwart such possible incidents of illegal import which may be responsible for growing trade deficit against China.
