

[15 May, 2000]

RAJYA SABHA

Registration of Darjeeling Tea Trade Mark

5186. SHRI RAMACHANDRAIAH RUMANDLA:
SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice the Government that foreign traders/blenders pass off inferior tea under the name of Darjeeling Tea; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to get the Darjeeling Tea Trade Mark registered immediately in foreign countries like Japan, USA and Europe to ensure that Darjeeling Tea does not loose market or demand on account of such malpractices?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) Though no complaints towards passing off inferior teas by the foreign traders/blenders under the name of Darjeeling tea have been received by the Government/Tea Board, the scope for and possibilities of passing off inferior tea under the name of "Darjeeling tea" internationally is not ruled out.

(b) Darjeeling Logo which is owned by Tea Board of India has already been registered as Certification Trade Mark in United Kindgom, United States of America, Canada, Germany, France, Luxembourg, Belgium, Portugal, Netherlands, Spain, Italy, Austria, Japan and Egypt so as to protect the said mark from being misrepresented.

Export from Different Zones

†5187. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH:
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up different zones at different places from where exports are made;

(b) if so, the number of such zones in the country at present and the total number of units therein; and

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

(c) the value of total import carried out by these units during the years 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000 alongwith percentage of such export and import in comparison to the total value of the country's import and export, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) The Government of India has set up seven Export Processing Zones (EPZs) in the country at kandla (Gujarat), Bombay (Maharashtra), Noida (Uttar Pradesh), Madras (Tamil Nadu), Cochin (Kerala), Falta (West Bengal) and Visakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh). As on 31st March, 2000, 708 units are in operation in these Zones.

(c) The value of total exports and imports effected by EPZ units during 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000 and its percentage share in the total exports and imports of the country are given below:

Year	Export from. EPZs (Rs. crores)	%age share of EPZ exports in the total exports	Imports by EPZs (Rs. Crores)	%age share of EPZ imports in the total imports
1997-98	4817.30	3.70	2661.89	1.72
1998-99	5252.48	3.71	2120.25	1.18
1999-2000	6707.44	4.12	3079.72	1.53
Provisional				

Signing of Trade Agreement with Mauritius

5188. **SHRI NANA DESHMUKH:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recently out of four agreements signed with Mauritius, and agreement on trade was signed with the contention that the trade between two countries would grow further;

(b) if so, the percentage of growth of trade between two countries;

(c) what are the items for export and import from and to India; and

(d) whether the balance of payment would be in favour of India and if so, the what extent?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) Yes, sir it is a fact that a bilateral Trade Agreement was one of the Agreements signed recently with Mauritius.