

(e) and (f) Representations were made by some Members of Parliament, the Karnataka Growers' Federation etc. requesting for waiver of interest on the loans taken by the medium and large coffee growers. The matter was examined in consultation with the Ministry of Finance. However, the request was not found feasible on the ground that such a waiver would have financial implications for banks and result in similar kind of demands from other sectors.

Countervailing duty by US on export of Shrimp

322. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the country's seafood industry is facing serious pressure from the US after the association of American Shrimp farmers asked the US Department of Commerce (USDOC) to impose a countervailing duty on shrimps in addition to the anti-dumping duty;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether India along with other countries have approached WTO Dispute Settlement Body (dsb) to get the restriction removed; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A legal petition to USA has been filed on 28.12.2012 by Coalition of Gulf Shrimp Industries, for imposition of countervailing duty (CVD) on import of shrimps to USA by seven countries viz. China, Thailand, Vietnam, Ecuador, Indonesia, Malaysia and India. Coalition of Gulf Shrimp Industries claims that subsidies provided by Government of India to the Indian Shrimp Industry provide unfair advantage for Indian shrimp exporters to export shrimps to USA at lower prices. United States Department of Commerce (US DOC) and the United States International Trade Commission (US ITC) are in the process of investigation on the case of Countervailing Duties on export of frozen shrimp from India.

Government of India had consultations with the US DOC on the subject matter and had meeting with USITC on January 14, 2013. Government of India expressed its concerns about the protective regime followed by USA with regard to shrimps, WTO inconsistent actions taken by US Authorities and gross deficiencies in the petition. The ITC hearing in connection with the investigation on 18.01.2013 was also attended by officials of the Government of India.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise, in view of reply to part (c) above.

Increase in import of oil and gold

323. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the import of oil and gold has increased during the last three years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Details of value of import of Petroleum, Crude and Products and Gold during the last three years are given below:

(Value in US \$ Billions)				
Commodity	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 (P)	2012-13 (Apr-Dec) (P)
Petroleum, Crude and Products	87	106	155	125
Gold	29	41	56	38

Source: DGCI&S.

(P) Provisional.

Delay in construction of DMIC

324. SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the construction of Delhi Mumbai Industrial Corridor has been delayed;

(b) if so, the details of the original timeline of the project;

(c) the reasons for delay in the project;

(d) whether Government proposes to implement the project in a time bound manner;