

aspirations, economy and policy making, manufacturing, trade, sustainable business infrastructure, climate change and water security. 'Iran in the World' and issues pertaining to Europe including currency issues were also on the agenda.

#### **Import of pharmaceuticals and generic medicines**

1565. SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of total pharmaceutical goods including generic medicines imported from countries particularly from USA during the last three years and the current year;
- (b) whether there is a huge scope for increase in imports from pharmaceutical industry;
- (c) if so, the details thereof along with the present position thereto; and
- (d) the likely impact of such increase in the imports on the domestic pharmaceutical industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): (a) to (d) The details of total pharmaceutical goods, imported from different countries and USA is as below:

Year	Total import (Rs. in Crores)	% Growth	Import from USA only (Rs. in Crores)	% Growth
2010-11	5504.5	-	695.4	-
2011-12	8131.1	47.7	973.4	39.98
2012-13	9522.4	17.1	1357.5	39.46
2013-14 (Apr-Sep)	4668.7	NA	1045.3	NA

Import of any good pre-supposes two things; either goods of comparable quality are not available in the domestic market or, if available, its domestic price is higher than its import price. The Indian pharmaceuticals industry is self-sufficient in production of majority of formulations/pharmaceutical products. The imports are being resorted to

economic considerations and not necessarily due to non-availability from domestic sources. The Trade Defence Measures like Safeguard duty, Anti Dumping duty and Countervailing duty can be resorted to by the Government in cases threat to domestic producers.

### **Export of fruits**

1566. SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether export of fruits from the country is negligible despite India being one of the largest producers of fruits in the world, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(b) whether Government has taken necessary steps to encourage export of fruits;

(c) if so, the details thereof and their outcome along with the total fruits exported during each of last three years and current year; and

(d) whether Government proposes to explore new possibilities for export of fruits and formulate financial package for encouraging export of fresh fruits and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): (a) As per Indian Horticulture database 2012 published by the National Horticulture Board, the production of fruits in 2011 was 76.42 million tonnes whereas the export of fruits in 2011-12 was only 0.44 million tonnes amounting to only 0.57% of production. The low share in exports *vis-a-vis* production is because of high domestic consumption, fragmented supply chain, small land holdings, lack of appropriate infrastructure, high cost of logistics, difficulties in meeting global standards, high international transportation costs, etc.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Government has been providing various incentives for augmenting export of fruits. The Government through APEDA provides financial assistance to exporters for following activities under its plan scheme:

(i) For brand publicity through advertisement, packaging, participation in international trade fairs, opening of new markets etc under Market Development Scheme.