

In the meantime, the Government of India is preparing its arguments and defence in consultation with the legal experts as well as the stakeholders concerned.

(d) Amongst others, two important issues between the Governments of the US and India are related to two other WTO Disputes. These are:

- (i) WTO Dispute DS430 related to India's measures banning import of agricultural products, in particular, the poultry and poultry products from a country infected with the Avian Influenza viral strains.
- (ii) WTO Dispute DS436 related to Countervailing Duty (CVD) imposed by the US on certain hot rolled carbon steel flat products originating from India.

Review and study on functioning of SEZs

3720. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any review and study have been conducted on the functioning of Special Economic Zones (SEZs);
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action being taken on the findings made therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) to (c) Sir, ongoing review and reform, as necessary, of Government policy and procedure is inherent to Public Policy. The Government, on the basis of inputs/suggestions received from stakeholders on the policy and operational framework of the SEZ Scheme, periodically reviews the policy and operational framework of SEZs and takes necessary measures so as to facilitate speedy and effective implementation of SEZs. The Government has notified SEZ Rule (amendment) 2013 vide GSR 540E dated 12.8.2013 to reduced land requirement criteria and other reform measure to boost SEZ policy framework.

Marble import policy

†3721. SHRI RAM NARAIN DUDI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of quantum of marbles imported during the past three years;
- (b) the details of the policy made by Government for importing marbles at present; and
- (c) whether Government proposes to change the existing marble import policy, if so, the reasons therefor?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) The quantity of marble imported during the past three years is given in the following table:

		(Quantity in MT)		
ITC (HS) Code	Commodity	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
25151100	Marble and Travertine crude/roughly trimmed	0	3,676.00	322.88
25151210	Blocks marble and travertine	4,91,521.25	5,88,329.13	6,17,244.56
25151220	Slabs marble and travertine	12,056.70	4,782.50	0
25151290	Other marble and travertine	1,297.65	43	254.45
25174100	Granules chipping and powder of marble	6,341.15	4,281.13	2,790.60
680221	Simply cut/sawn marble travertine and alabaster with a flat or even surface	1,20,899.36	1,54,859.72	1,41,076.08
68022110	Marble blocks/tiles, polished	27,341.62	25,009.34	13,078.50
68022120	Marble monuments	126.2	246.88	23
68022190	Others	93,431.54	1,29,603.48	1,27,974.59
68029100	Other marble travertine and alabaster	3,840.21	1,817.91	635.96
TOTAL		7,56,855.68	9,12,649.09	9,03,400.62

(b) Details of the policy made by the Government for importing marble in 2013-14, (which is in operation) are as follows:

- (i) Policy for allocation of quota for import of Rough Marble Blocks for Indian Companies investing abroad in marble mining for FY 2013-14 has been notified *vide* Notification No.36 (RE-2013)/2009-14 dated 26.8.2013. The main features of the Policy are as follows:
 - Mining company must be a 100% subsidiary of the Indian company.
 - Minimum investment in plant and machinery should be ₹ 10 crore as on 31.3.2013
 - Total quantity under the scheme limited to 1 lakh MT. (Maximum per applicant 30,000 MT).

- License under Actual User Condition.
 - Only marble blocks produced from own quarries to be imported,
- (ii) Policy for issue of import licenses of Rough Marble and Travertine Blocks for the Financial year 2013-14 was notified vide Notification No.37 (RE-2013)/2009-14) dated 26.8.2013. The main features of this Policy are as follows:
- Units having installed marble gangsaw machines that had been in operation for five years as on 31.3.2013 and had cumulative turnover of Rs.5 crores in respect of processed marble slabs/tiles only during the 5 years period (2007-08 to 2011-12) were entitled to apply for import authorisation.
 - Annual quota of 6 lakh MT was fixed subject to MIP of US\$ 325 per MT.
 - Licenses were subject to overall ceiling of 3000 MT for the first gangsaw and 1500 MT for every subsequent gangsaw and were with Actual User Condition.
- (iii) Import Policy for processed marble is 'free' subject to a minimum cif value of US\$ 60 and above per square metre. [Notification No.65 (RE-2010/2009-2014 dated 4.8.2011].
- (c) In view of the various representations received, the marble policy for the financial year 2014-15 would be finalized in consultation with stakeholders.

Trade between India and China

3722. SHRI PRAMOD TIWARI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the quantum and product/item-wise details of value of trade between India and China during each of last three years and current year;
- (b) whether Chinese Government has imposed restrictions on import of certain items, particularly agricultural products from India, if so, details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has raised issue of trade deficit with China, if so, the details thereof and the reaction of China thereon; and
- (d) the steps taken/being taken by Government to resolve pending issues like market access to Indian products including removal of restrictions in export of agricultural products, with Chinese Government and to boost India's export to China?