

***Statement-II******Details of Joint Study Groups***

Agreement	Establishment of Joint Study Group	Submission of Report of JSG
India-Singapore Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA)	8 April, 2002	8 April, 2003
India-Korea Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement(CEPA)	October, 2004	January, 2006
India-Japan CEPA	November, 2004	June, 2006
India-Malaysia CECA	23 March, 2005	11 August, 2007
India-New Zealand CEPA	April, 2007	30 March, 2009
India-Australia CEPA	April, 2008	04 May, 2010
India-Peru FTA	15 January, 2016	—
India- Eurasian Economic Union (EaEU)	18 June, 2015	—

**Impact of ban on import of natural rubber on tyre industry**

659. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether as against 1.2 million tonnes of annual consumption, India's natural rubber production stands at 5,75,000 tonnes, leaving no other option than to import the gap;

(b) whether Automotive Tyre Manufacturers Association is peeved up with recent ban on import of natural rubber and restricting entry points for import to only two ports, alleging that with steep decline in tyre exports, around 40 per cent of tyre units engaged in making rubber products have shut shops; and

(c) whether import restrictions on natural rubber is set to defy the 'Make in India' concept, escalating import of tyres from China and Vietnam?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) Projected estimates of production and

consumption of Natural Rubber (NR) for the year 2015-16 are 580,000 tonnes and 1000,000 tonnes respectively, leaving a production-consumption balance of 420,000 tonnes. As per available statistics, import of NR during April-January, 2015-16 was 365,805 tonnes, while the estimated stock of NR at the end of January, 2016 was 242,000 tonnes.

(b) Representations have been received from the Automotive Tyre Manufacturers Association from time to time on the issues affecting the tyre industry. There is no ban on import of rubber. However, steps in form of periodical restrictions on fresh issue or renewal of further advance authorizations of imports or port restrictions have been taken with a view to augment demand for domestically produced NR. Given the fact that international prices of NR have fallen, the viability of tyre industry is dependent, *inter alia*, on the level of modernization of the industry, proportion and cost of imported vs domestically sourced raw material and the overall cost of production.

(c) Impacts of measures taken to regulate imports and promote exports are reviewed regularly by the Government in Line with its overall policy for promoting overall industrial growth. Protection is also available to the industry from unfair competition or surge in imports in form of anti-dumping and safeguards measures.

#### **Rejection of Indian products by USFDA**

660. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the US Food and Drug Administration (USFDA) has rejected about 13,000 Indian products including patent medicines, generic drugs, bakery products, snacks etc., during the last five years;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the measures being taken to improve the standard and quality adhering to the global market standards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) and (b) According to Import Refusal Report data available on the US FDA website ([http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/import\\_refusals](http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/import_refusals)), 11664 refusals of Indian products were recorded from January, 2011 to February, 2016.