

- (b) The value of India's import of capital goods from April, 2014 is as follows:
(Figures in US\$ billions)

Years	Import of Capital Goods
2014-15	45.83
2015-16	45.75
2016-17 (Apr.-Dec.)*	33.98

*Provisional

Source: DGCI&S, Kolkata.

(c) and (d) As per Index of Industrial Production (IIP) released by CSO, manufacturing sector of India registered a positive growth of 2.3% during 2014-15 over the year 2013-14 and during 2015-16 it registered a positive growth of 2.0%. The decline in the manufacturing sector is 0.2% during 2016-17 (Apr.-Jan.) as compared to the corresponding period of the previous year. However, manufacturing sector registered a positive growth of 2.3% in January, 2017.

Foreign capital investment in AYUSH

†3696. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has given approval to foreign capital investment in the field of AYUSH;
- (b) if so, the percentage of investment allowed to be made by the multinational companies; and
- (c) the names of those companies, the country-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) to (c) As per extant FDI Policy, foreign investment up to 100% is permitted for AYUSH sector.

Dr. Willmar Schwabe GmbH, Germany was allowed in February 1994 to manufacture and distribute homoeopathic and herbal medicines in India with foreign equity of 85%.

Also, in March 2016, the proposal of M/s Beloor Bayir Biotech Ltd was considered by the Government for acquisition of the pharmaceutical business of Bayir Chemicals and the ayurvedic products business of Sneha Natura and permission for the foreign investor M/s India Agri Business Fund Limited (IABF),

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Mauritius, to invest up to INR 250 million with foreign equity participation not to exceed 74%.

Further, separate data in respect of foreign investment in AYUSH sector is not maintained.

Stopping use of micro beads

3697. SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that use of micro beads (tiny plastic balls) is very common in production of many soaps and skin exfoliants, which is very harmful to aquatic fauna and flora;

(b) if so, whether Government plans to stop use of such materials; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) Technically uniform sphericity and particle size of microbeads create a ball-bearing effect in soaps, skin creams and lotions, enhancing a silky texture, spreadability, smoothness and roundness in the feel. Regarding harmful effects, the issue is before the National Green Tribunal for adjudication which is being perused by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.

(b) and (c) In view of Adjudication in National Green Tribunal, the question do not arise.

Plan to improve exports to China

3698. SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware about export-import trade imbalance with China;

(b) if so, whether Government has any plan to improve Indian exports to China;

(c) if so, the sectors identified for which Indian industry has scope in Chinese market;

(d) the details of Government support to improve exports to China; and

(e) whether Government has any plan to discourage Chinese imports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) Yes, Sir. Details of trade