

Review of GSP by the US administration

1644. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the US administration has been reviewing the Generalised System of Preferences (GSP) which is considered to be detrimental in decline of exports from India to the US;

(b) if so, the details thereof and action taken by Government to express India's concern over it; and

(c) what alternative plan is being contemplated by Government to tackle this issue so that exports from India to the US are not affected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) Yes, US has been reviewing GSP programme for India. However, the impact of the same cannot be envisaged.

(b) and (c) The issue of GSP has been discussed on various platforms such as Trade Policy Forum and at bilateral level.

Manual auction of cardamom

1645. DR. SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether manual auction of cardamom is still being carried out in some auction centres across the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has fixed any time-frame to introduce e-auction at those centres;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Manual auction of cardamom is being carried out in some auction centers across the country. Spices Board issues licenses to auctioneers to conduct cardamom auction. The details of licenses issued for the block period 2014-17 as per the details given below:—

Sl. No.	Name of the Auctioneer	Place of Auction	Small/Large Cardamom
1.	Rajagiri Impex Ltd., Navi Mumbai.	Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra	Small Cardamom
2.	Hanbal Kenche Gowda and Bros, Saklespur.	Saklespur, Karnataka	Small Cardamom
3.	Sirsi Taluka Agricultural Produce Co- operative Marketing Society Ltd. Sirsi.	Sirsi, Karnataka	Small Cardamom
4.	The Cardamom Auction Centre, Saklespur.	Saklespur, Karnataka	Small Cardamom
5.	The Totgars Co-operative Sale Society Ltd. Sirsi.	Sirsi, Karnataka	Small Cardamom
6.	Thimmayya Venkappa Hegde Mulkhand and Sons, Sirsi	Sirsi, Karnataka	Small Cardamom
7.	Kalimpong Krishak Kalyan Sangathan, Darjeeling	Kalimpong, West Bengal	Large Cardamom
8.	Neramac Ltd., Gangtok	Singtam, Sikkim	Large cardamom

(c) to (e) No time-frame has been fixed to introduce e-auction at those centres as the annual auction sale quantity is not much and hence not feasible to introduce e-auction, which require huge investment.

Five year trade programme with China

1646. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and China have signed five year trade programme to develop trade in the spirit of mutual benefit;

(b) if so, what is the progress of this policy, especially to increase bilateral trade in services IT and IT enabled services; and

(c) whether number of mandatory documents required for exports and imports have been reduced for trade facilitation and ease of doing business, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) Yes sir.