

F.No. 3/4/2019-EP(Agri-II)  
Government of India  
Ministry of Commerce & Industry  
(DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE)

Udyog Bhavan, New Delhi  
Dated the 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2019

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Sub: Question raised during 'Zero Hour' by Shri Nalin Kumar Kateel, MP (Lok Sabha) on 2<sup>nd</sup> July, 2019 regarding "Problems of Areca nut cultivation in Malnad region" -reg.

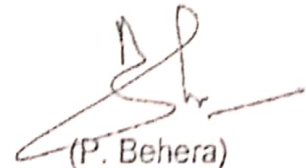
The undersigned is directed to reproduce below the Question raised during 'Zero Hour' in Lok Sabha by Shri Nalin Kumar Kateel, MP (Lok Sabha) on the above mentioned subject:-

*"Areca nut cultivation is the main livelihood of the farmers in the region. Areca nut prices has collapsed in the market. This has pushed Areca nut growers into the distress. Therefore, the Union Government should intervene in this matter to announce the support price and also a special package for Areca nut growers.*

*The measure reason for collapse in prices of Areca nut is that substandard Areca nut is brought into our country through illegal means and illegal sale from neighbouring countries such as Burma, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh. Middlemen purchasing the produce at cheaper prices to avoid payment of customs duty by involving in the illegal means. As a result, there is an approximate loss of Rs. 5,000 crore to the Government. Hence I urge upon the Government to set a special task force to put an end to the illegal trade of Areca nut and punish the tax evaders."*

2. In view of the foregoing Question, it is requested that inputs along with supplementary documents may be furnished to this Department latest by 12<sup>th</sup> July, 2019 positively so as to enable this Department to furnish a suitable reply to the Hon'ble Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha).

3. This issues with the approval of competent authority.



(P. Behera)  
Under Secretary (EP-Agri-II)  
E-mail: [moc\\_epagri2@nic.in](mailto:moc_epagri2@nic.in)

To

1. Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare  
[Kind Attn: Shri D.P. Mohapatra, Advisor (Trade)]  
Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare  
Room No.- 189, Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi.  
E-mail: [Mohapatra.dp@nic.in](mailto:Mohapatra.dp@nic.in)

मुख्य आयुक्त / Chief Commissioner  
 वी. कर एवं सीमा शुल्क Central Tax & Customs  
 10 JUL 2019  
 केन्द्रीय वस्तु एवं सेवाकर विभाग, विशाखापट्टणम क्षेत्र  
 Central GST Visakhapatnam Zone.  
 विशाखापट्टणम - 35 / Visakhapatnam-35

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Parliament Matter/Urgent

F.No. 391/16/2019-Cus(AS)  
 Government of India  
 Ministry of Finance  
 Department of Revenue  
 Central Board of Excise and Customs  
 (Anti-Smuggling Unit)

New Delhi dated 10<sup>th</sup> July, 2019

To,

*xc/cus*

*10/7  
 Supr-7*

Director General, Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (Hqrs.), New Delhi.  
 All Principal Chief/Chief Commissioners of Customs.  
 All Principal Chief/Chief Commissioners of Customs and Central Excise.

Madam/Sir,

**Subject:** Question raised during "Zero Hour" by Shri Nalin Kumar Kateel, MP (Lok Sabha) on 2<sup>nd</sup> July, 2019 regarding "Problems of Areca nut cultivation in Malnad Region"-reg

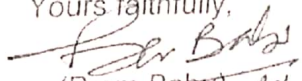
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The undersigned is directed to forward an OM No. 3/4/2019-EP(Agri-II) dated 09.07.2019 on the above mentioned subject and to request you to furnish inputs in the below mentioned format in this regard latest by tomorrow i.e. 11.07.2019 to this office before 05:00 PM positively at telefax no. 011-26177328 and also e-mail at [premb.mahor@nic.in](mailto:premb.mahor@nic.in).

| Year    | No. of Cases | Qty. Seized (in Kg) | Value of the goods seized (Rs. in Lakh) | Remarks |
|---------|--------------|---------------------|---|---------|
| 2016-17 |              |                     |   |         |
| 2017-18 |              |                     |   |         |
| 2018-19 |              |                     |   |         |

Note:- In remarks column mention the origin of the goods and action taken

Encl.As Above

Yours faithfully,  
  
 (Prem Babu)  
 Under Secretary(AS)





केंद्रीयवस्तु, सेवाकर एवं सीमा शुल्क के मुख्य आयुक्त का कार्यालय  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF CENTRAL GST & CUSTOMS  
विशाखापट्टणम क्षेत्र VISAKHAPATNAM ZONE

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C.NO.V/19/05/2019-Tech-PQ

Dated 11.7.2019

सेवा मे To

The Under Secretary(AS)  
Anti Smuggling Unit  
CBEC  
New Delhi.

महोदय Sir,

**Sub: Question raised during "Zero Hour" by Shri Nalin Kumar Kateel, MP (Lok Sabha) on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2019 regarding "Problems of Areca nut cultivation in malnad Region"- reg.**

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Kind reference is invited to your letter F.No.391/16/2019-Cus(AS) dated 10.7.2019 on the above mentioned subject.

2. The report on the above subject in respect of Vizag Zone is submitted here under in the prescribed proforma.

| YEAR    | NO. OF CASES | QTY. SEIZED (IN KGS.) | VALUE OF THE GOODS SEIZED (RS. IN LAKHS) | REMARKS (COUNTRY OF ORIGIN & ACTION TAKEN)   |
|---------|--------------|-----------------------|--|--|
| 2016-17 | 1            | 17,500                | 30.71                                    | The Country of origin was SRI LANKA. The cases were adjudicated, imposed Redemption Fine and penalty |
|         | 2            | No seizure            | 66 Lakhs Confiscated 0                   |  |
| 2017-18 |              |                       | NIL                                      |  |
| 2018-19 |              |                       |  |  |

3. Case wise details are as under.

| SL NO. | NAME OF THE IMPORTER                       | DESCRIPTION   |
|--------|--|---|
| 1      | M/s. TM Enterprises, Nagpur                | The importer has imported the goods from SRI LANKA, illegally with less than the minimum import price of Rs.251/- or Rs. 162/- per Kg as fixed by DGFT and were seized on 14.03.2017. OIO No.01/2017-18 dated 10.04.2017 was issued, by imposing Redemption Fine of Rs. 20,24,750/- and penalty of Rs.3,50,000/-. |
| 2      | M/s. I.P International, Mumbai             | A case was booked on 23.03.2017 for illegal import of 1,74,000 kgs of Areca Nuts, valued 127.29 Lakhs. As OIO No.04/2017, dt. 21.06.2017 was issued imposing penalty of Rs.7,00,000/-.  |
| 3      | M/s. R.K.Exports, Mettupalayam, Tamilnadu. | A case was booked on 23.03.2017 for illegal import of 36,000 kgs of Areca Nuts, valued 65.92 Lakhs. An OIO No.20/2017, dt 30.12.2017 was issued imposing Redemption Fine of Rs.6,50,000/- and penalty of Rs.3,00,000/-.   |

भवदीय Yours faithfully,

अरविंद दास  
(अरविंद दास ARAVINDA DAS)

महायक आयुक्त Asst. Commissioner

Reply sent this  
11/7/19