

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1791
ANSWERED ON:01.08.2003
RESTRICTIONS ON IMPORT OF SHRIMPS
CHANDRA NATH SINGH;NVEDITA MANE

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the American Government has recently imposed a ban on the import of Indian shrimps;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the measures taken by the Government to get this ban lifted?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI S.B. MOOKHERJEE)

(a) to (c) : There has been no recent ban on import of Indian Shrimp by the USA. However, on the ground that trawling for shrimp by mechanized means would adversely affect certain varieties of sea turtles, the USA imposed a ban in 1996 on the import of shrimp from such countries, including India, which are not certified to be Turtle Excluder Device (TED) compliant. The ban is continued even today and India's efforts before Disputes Settlement Body of World Trade Organization to get the USA to withdraw the restriction have not succeeded. However, exports to USA of shrimps of aquaculture origin, and shrimp caught by non-mechanized means are continuing on the basis of certificates issued to this effect by the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA).