

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5700
ANSWERED ON:03.05.2005
CERTIFICATE OF CONSIGNMENTS
Singh Shri Dushyant

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

- (a) whether the Government has made the certification of consignments meant for export or import mandatory;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and since when it has been made mandatory; and
- (c) the main objectives behind the decision?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY(SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGO VAN)

(a) to (c): To ensure a level playing field to the domestic producers vis-à-vis import and in conformity with the 'National Treatment' principle of WTO, imports have been subject to certain mandatory regulations such as the PFA Act, 1954, Meat Food Products Order, Mandatory Indian Quality Standards etc. These mandatory regulations are notified as General Conditions to Imports, Chapter 1-A of the ITC (HS) Classification of Exports and Imports, 2004-09.

As per Schedule - II of the ITC (HS) Classification of Exports and Imports, 2004-09, exports are subject to mandatory certification requirements under the Export (Quality Control and Inspection) Act, 1963, etc. These certifications are important in view of the Sanitary and Phyto-Sanitary (SPS) and Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Agreements of the WTO, as well as to ensure adherence to quality standards in respect of exports.