

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3656
ANSWERED ON:23.08.2004
PROTECTION OF MILK PRODUCERS
Choudhary Shri Nikhil Kumar

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether imported milk has created danger to public health as well as Indian economy as reported in the 'Hindustan' dated July 18, 2004;
- (b) if so, the details and facts thereof;
- (c) whether Indian Milk Industry is being made to suffer heavily due to the policy of the Government; and
- (d) the corrective measures taken by the Government for the protection of Indian Milk Producers?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE(SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA)

- (a): No, Sir.
- (b): In view of position at (a) above, question does not arise;
- (c): No, Sir.
- (d): The following measures have been taken by the Government for the protection of Indian Milk Producers:-
 1. Skimmed Milk Powder, Whole Milk Powder, Butter and Butter Oil have been identified as a sensitive item and their import is being monitored regularly by the Ministry of Commerce to check the surge in the import;
 2. The import duty on skimmed milk powder (SMP) and whole milk powder (WMP) had been enhanced from zero to 60% with annual tariff rate quota of 10,000 MT with both lines together at 15% duty after negotiations under Article XXVIII of GATT.
 3. The import duty on butter oil has also been enhanced to 40%.
 4. The Livestock Importation Act 1898 has been amended so as to allow the import of livestock products including milk and milk products against sanitary import permit.