

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4045  
ANSWERED ON:20.12.2005  
RESTRICTION ON IMPORT OF FOOD ITEMS  
Yadav Shri Anirudh Prasad (Sadhu)

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

- (a) whether some gulf countries have imposed restriction on import of food items from India;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Saudi Arabia imposed ban on import from India of marine products in 1984 and leafy vegetables in 1996 following India having been named in the reports of the World Health Organisation as one of the countries affected by Cholera. Recently, during November 2005, Saudi Arabia has banned import of live birds and hatching eggs from Asian countries, including India, in the wake of outbreak of Bird flu in some Asian countries. Earlier, during October 2005, UAE have also banned import of all poultry and poultry products from all Asian countries, including India.

(c) Government of India have taken up the issue with the concerned authorities at bilateral fora dealing with economic and commercial issues.