

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1703
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2004
IMPORT OF CONTAMINATED FOOD PRODUCTS
Yadav Shri Baleshwar

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

- (a) whether certain rules are laid down for the import of food products in the country to avoid possibility of import of contaminated products,
- (b) whether the Government feels the need for such a protocol under which the responsibility to examine the contamination is fixed on the country exporting the products; and
- (c) if so, the steps being 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) to (c) The import of all food articles is regulated as per section 5 & 6 of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act (PFA), 1954. The Customs Officers may detain the consignment of imported food and draw a sample and get it analyzed in the Central Food Laboratories / authorized State Food Laboratories to assess the quality of such food articles as per the provisions of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act and rules made thereunder. Under the WTO Regulations and based on the principle of national treatment all imports are subject to laws and rules regulating the domestic sector. In terms of this, all standards mandated by the PFA Act, 1954, are imposed on the import of food products.