

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1709
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2004
ORCHIDS IMPORT
Madhwaraj Smt. Manorama

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

- (a) whether clandestine import of inferior species of Orchids from Thailand, posing threat to nascent domestic orchid industry:
- (b) whether such clandestine imports of orchids is facilitated by lax and inadequate Plant Quarantine regulations in India: and
- (c) if so, steps being taken to prevent such clandestine imports?

Answer

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

(a) No, Sir.

(b) The ITC (HS) Classification of Exports and Imports lays down that import of Orchids into India will be allowed on the basis of scientific Pest Risk Analysis and will have to be accompanied by, inter-alia, Phyto sanitary Certification by the Plant Quarantine authorities of the country of origin.

(c) Officials posted at various Plant Quarantine Stations have been advised to maintain vigil to prevent the illegal entry of orchids into the country.