

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:117
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2004
BAN ON INDIAN IMPORTS BY BANGLADESH
Kamat Shri Gurudas

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Bangladesh has threatened a ban on Indian imports;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefore;
- (c) the quantum of loss likely to be suffered as a result thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E.AHAMED)

a) Speaking at the inaugural session of the `India-Bangladesh Dialogue of Young Journalists` in Dhaka on Sep 7, 2004, Bangladesh Foreign Minister Mr Morshed Khan is reported to have said that `if Dhaka wanted to establish a win-win situation, we could end India`s US \$ 3 billion trade by issuing an SRO (Statutory Regulatory Order) on all Indian goods entering Bangladesh.`

The Bangladesh Government has not promulgated any such order to this effect.

b) The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bangladesh issued a press release on Sep 11, 2004 stating that the remarks of the Bangladesh Foreign Minister were aimed at creating awareness among the young journalists on India and Bangladesh about the issues that govern Bangladesh-India relations and should be seen as such. The press release also said that the young journalists would understand the issues in their right perspective and would look at them dispassionately and objectively.

c) Does not arise.

d) Does not arise.