

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5794
ANSWERED ON:30.08.2001
BAN ON IMPORTED FOOD PRODUCTS
JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are contemplating to impose a ban on the imported food products like garlic, onion, milk powder etc.;
- (b) whether Indian agriculture sector has been affected by the import of foreign products; and
- (c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD Y. NAIK)

(a): There is no such proposal.

(b) & (c): There has not been any significant shift in the import scenario of agricultural commodities in the liberalized trade under the WTO Agreement on Agriculture except in case of edible oils. The Government has put in place a suitable mechanism for monitoring the imports of agricultural commodities, and is committed to providing adequate protection to the domestic farmers against the indiscriminate imports, by resorting to various WTO compatible measures which include appropriate calibration of applied tariffs within the bound levels, imposition of anti-dumping, countervailing duties and safeguard action under certain specified circumstances. During the year 2001-02, the import duty on tea, coffee, copra and coconut and certain other agricultural commodities has been increased.