

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4080  
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2002  
IMPORT OF POOR QUALITY TEA  
A. VENKATESH NAIK

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

- (a) whether the Government are aware of the facts that poor quality tea is being imported by the eminent exporters to get huge margine of profit;
- (b) if so, whether the Government are considering to conduct any enquiry in this regard;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether this tea is being exported from the country;
- (e) if so, whether this act is affecting the credibility of Indian tea in the world market; and
- (f) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY)

(a) to (d) The import of tea into India is subject to the provisions of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act (PFA). The specifications indicated for tea, under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules 1955 are more or less similar to the ISO 3720 Standard. The question of importing poor quality tea not conforming to PFA specifications does not arise and therefore there is no scope of re-export of imported poor quality tea from India.

(e)&(f) Do not arise.