

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:784  
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2002  
BAN ON AZO DYES  
S. SAIDUZZAMAN

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

- (a) whether European Union has banned two more azo dyes for use in textiles and leather goods in order to protect human health;
- (b) whether these dyes are made in India and exported and used in the country;
- (c) if so, whether the Government are considering to put ban on these dyes in India;
- (d) whether a similar ban would be put on all such dyes which have been banned in Euro countries;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the steps being taken in this direction?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (f) : European Commission introduced an EU wide legislative regulation, effective 11.9.2003 prohibiting use of specific azo dyes capable of releasing amines harmful to human health. This legislation would give EU wide effect to the already existing country specific similar regulations which are in force in Germany, Netherlands and Austria.

Government of India has prohibited handling of dyes which are capable of releasing harmful amines. In view of the impact of such legislations on India's exports, especially to EU countries, labeling and eco-marking schemes etc have been introduced for propagating the use of safe dyes and chemicals. Government has also initiated various steps to educate and assist the trade and industry like setting up of eco laboratories, dissemination of information regarding the ecological requirements in EU countries, creating awareness and providing guidance in respect of eco friendly products etc to meet the challenges posed by such ecological requirements in developed countries.