

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2123
ANSWERED ON:20.07.2009
ADVERSE IMPACT OF FRUIT IMPORTS
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Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the fruit growers of the country are getting adversely affected by the imports of apple and other fruits under the open general licence;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether any survey or study has been conducted to assess the adverse impact of fruit imports of domestic fruit growers; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA)

(a) to (d) Fruits are classified under Chapter 8 of ITC (HS) Classification of Export and Imports Items 2004-09. Import of the items classified under this Chapter is free. However, all imports in the country are subject to payment of applicable custom duties. Restrictions on import were removed by the Government in 2001.

There has been no formal study to assess the impact of fruit imports on domestic fruit growers. However, the Government is monitoring import of certain sensitive commodities in the country on a monthly basis. Import of a number of fruits is also included in this list. Import of fruits included in the sensitive list increased by 43.51% in 2008-09 as compared to the previous year.