

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:776

ANSWERED ON:02.03.2010

SALE OF BANNED CHOCOLATES

Bapurao Shri Khatgaonkar Patil Bhaskarrao;Gaikwad Shri Eknath Mahadeo;Yaskhi Shri Madhu Goud

**Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has imposed a ban on the sale of Chinese chocolates in the country since December, 2008;
- (b) if so, whether despite the ban, such products are widely available in various parts of the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard including action against officers and other persons responsible for the same?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K- V. THOMAS)

- (a): The Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Department of Commerce) has issued a notification No.67 (RE-2008)/2004-2009 dated 01-12-2008 for banning the import of milk and milk products including chocolate from China.
- (b) & (c): As per the information made available by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India, no instance of availability/ sale of such chocolates has been reported.
- (d): The Central Government has issued instructions to Food (Health) Authorities of the States/Union Territories, who are responsible for implementation of Prevention of Food Adulteration Act in their States and Union Territories to keep a strict vigil on the quality of imported milk and milk products including chocolates manufactured by Chinese companies by conducting special drive to draw random samples of milk and milk products and take necessary preventive action under the provisions of Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 and Rules framed thereunder.