

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2537

ANSWERED ON:11.03.2011

IMPORT OF BIOLOGICAL PRODUCTS FROM CHINA

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Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the health laboratories set up by the Government have approved certain vaccines, diagnostic kits and other biological products imported from China in Indian Market without proper testing;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to check recurrence of such irregularities in future?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DINESH TRVEDI)

(a) to (c) Samples of diagnostics kits and other biological products imported from other countries, including China, are subjected to random testing to check their quality. Some administrative problems in the National Institute of Biologicals apparently affected the quality of its scientific working instances were brought to the notice of the Government in January, 2009 by the Director General of Audit, Central Revenue that the Institute had issued batch release certification for certain products of Chinese origin without complying with the mandatory test parameters. Government has since taken several corrective measures, including change in the management of the Institute. Steps have been taken to test the biological products by the parameters specified in the pharmacopoeia / other guidelines and protocols, with proper documentation. Disciplinary action was initiated against the then Director of the Institute and he has since been repatriated to his parent Department. The procedures have since been fine-tuned so as to prevent recurrence of such incidents.