

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:776  
ANSWERED ON:19.03.2012  
IMPORT OF HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES  
Karwariya Shri Kapil Muni

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

- (a) whether the spurious products and other poisonous materials including melamine are being imported in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has taken any steps to initiate legal action against such importers; 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): Import of Melamine is free under Exim Code 2933 61 00 of ITC(HS) Classification. Details of import of Melamine during last 3 years are as under :

Year    Quantity (in Kgs)    Value (in Crores)

2008-09    11869390    77.49

2009-10    17241550    100.01

2010-11    27471690    184.66

All imported goods in India are subject to domestic laws, rules, orders, regulations, technical specifications, environment and safety norms. These regulations are notified in ITC (HS) Classifications of Export and Import Items. The Government acts in case goods imported from any source are found to violate these regulations and threaten human, animal or plant life or health. In the specific cases where Customs detect import of fake / toxic goods, such goods are seized and penal action is initiated under the provisions of Customs Act, 1962.

Due to concerns regarding melamine contamination in milk and milk products from China, on the recommendation from Food Safety and Standard Authority of India, the Government has prohibited import of milk and milk products including chocolate and chocolate products and candies/ confectionery / food preparations with milk or milk solids as ingredient, from China. Further, import of toys has been made subject to meeting the specified technical and safety standards.