

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2829
ANSWERED ON:30.03.2012
IMPORT OF CHINESE APPLE
Virendra Kumar Shri

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

- (a) whether Chinese apple suspected of containing bacteria which may spread diseases that are being imported without any testing;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to conduct any inquiry in this regard;
- (d) if so, the time by which the said inquiry is likely to be conducted; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY)

(a)&(b): Imported apples whether of Chinese or any other origin, suspected of containing bacteria which may spread disease undergo mandatory testing as per provisions under Food Safety and Standards (Contaminants, Toxins and Residues) Regulations 2011 from a laboratory before issuing No Objection Certificate to Customs Authority. The Customs Authority also issue examination order for testing Agriculture commodities including apples from quarantine angle to the Directorate of Plant Protection Quarantine and Storage, Department of Agriculture and Cooperation.

(c)to(e): This Ministry does not propose to conduct any enquiry as no such issues/reports have been received in the matter.