

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1297
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2012
READY TO USE THERAPEUTIC FOOD
Rao Shri Nama Nageswara

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the branded food in the name Ready to Use Therapeutic Food under the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme has been imported into the country by international agencies; and

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the importing agencies and the items imported by them along with its timing?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH)

(a) & (b): UNICEF had imported Ready to Use Therapeutic Food (RUTF) in the form of Plumpy Nut at the cost of \$ 2.4 million from French Company during August 2008 – January 2009. The imported RUTF was used by UNICEF in the States of Madhya Pradesh and Bihar "to treat children with severe acute malnutrition"

However, since the decision for procurement and distribution of supplies was taken by UNICEF in an unauthorized manner the Government of India directed the UNICEF to discontinue the use of RUTF with no further imports. UNICEF was also directed to ship out the supplies out of the country by 15th June, 2009 and restore the funds of equivalent value of the RUTF supplies to GOI-UNICEF India Country Programme for Child Development and Nutrition 2008-12. Full compliance has been confirmed by UNICEF in this regard.