

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:705

ANSWERED ON:27.02.2015

BAN ON IMPORT OF POULTRY PRODUCTS FROM UNITED STATES

Senguttuvan Shri Balasubramaniam

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

(a) whether the World Trade Organisation (WTO) had ruled that import restrictions imposed by India on poultry products from United States (US) is inconsistent with the WTO agreements and requested India to lift the ban;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto along with the present status thereof; and

(d) the other measures taken by the Government to protect growing domestic poultry industry from competitively priced American chicken legs?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)  
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a) to (d): In the World Trade Organization (WTO) dispute DS430 (Measures Concerning the Importation of Certain Agricultural Products from the United States), the WTO Panel had ruled that the import restrictions, imposed vide the Government of India (GOI) Notification No. S.O. 1663(E) dated 16 July, 2011, on account of outbreak of Avian Influenza in the country of export, is inconsistent with the WTO Agreement, in particular, the Agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Measures.

GOI has filed Appeal before the WTO Appellate Body on certain rulings of the panel which GOI considers legally inconsistent with the WTO Law.

India has a system in place for import of poultry products through Sanitary Import Permits (SIP). SIPs are granted for import of poultry products only after detailed Risk Analysis from the angle of human and animal safety. Import of poultry products are allowed from the country which are free from Highly Pathogenic and Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza. Moreover, at present, the Customs Duty on chicken legs has been retained at India's bound rate of duty, which is the maximum permissible level of duty committed to the WTO.