

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
(DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE)

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3396 (H)
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23rd MARCH, 2022

IMPORT OF SUBSTANDARD AND HARMFUL TOYS

3396(H). SHRI AJAY NISHAD:

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE & INDUSTRY** (वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री) be pleased to state:

- (a) whether substandard and harmful toys are being imported in the country from China and these are easily available in retail shops;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any steps have been taken to prevent the import and sale of such toys in toy shops; and
- (d) if so, the details of the measures taken/being taken for quality check of products imported from China and other countries?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती अनुप्रिया पटेल)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

(a) to (d): The import of toys, games, sports equipment from China is showing a declining trend. The imports of these products from China have reduced from 451.71 USD million in 2018-19 to 206.11 USD millions in 2021 (from April 2021 to Jan 2022).

To control import of cheap and sub-standard toys, Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) vide notification No. 33/2015-2020 dated 2.12.2019 has mandated sample testing from each consignment and no permission for sale unless the quality testing is successful. In case of failure, the consignment is either sent back or destroyed at the cost of the importer.

The Government has also issued Toys (Quality Control) Order, 2020 on 25 Feb 2020 through which toys have been brought under compulsory Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) certification with effect from 1st Jan 2021. This QCO is equally applicable to domestic

manufacturers as well as foreign manufacturers who intend to export their toys to India. As per this QCO, it is mandatory for toys to conform to Indian standards for safety of toys and bear the standard mark (ISI mark) under license from BIS as per Scheme-I of BIS (Conformity Assessment) regulations 2018, and no person shall manufacture, import, distribute, sell, hire, lease, store or exhibit for sale any toys without the ISI mark. Under the BIS Product Certification scheme, only those foreign manufacturers whose manufacturing and testing capability has been assessed as satisfactory by BIS will be able to obtain BIS licence and thereby, export toys to India.

Further, BIS also undertakes market surveillance activities and factory surveillance in order to check whether the licensee is operating satisfactorily as per the terms of the licence and Scheme of Inspection and Testing is being followed. Samples are also drawn for testing during these surveillance inspections.
