

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5738
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06th APRIL, 2022

IMPORT OF IRANIAN APPLE

5738. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that Iranian apple is being brought into India through Afghanistan without paying import duty in India;
- (b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to control this menace;
- (c) whether the Government of Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and the Union Territory of Kashmir has brought this matter to the notice of the Union Government; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

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) & (b): Duty free imports of apple are allowed from Afghanistan under the South Asia Free Trade Area (SAFTA) agreement, subject to adherence to prescribed Rules of Origin (RoOs). No abnormal imports of apples from Afghanistan have been noticed during the current year, with only 1947.19 tons, valued at USD 1.82 million, having been imported during the period April 2021 to January 2022.

(c) & (d): A number of representations were received in this regard. The matter was brought to the notice of the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) for strict compliance to RoOs with respect to apple imports from Afghanistan.
