

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 550
ANSWERED ON 26/07/2024

CARCINOGENS IN EXPORTED FOOD ITEMS

550. SHRI MOHAMMED NADIMUL HAQUE:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE & INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) list of countries that have banned exported food items from India due to presence of Group-1 carcinogens, in the last ten years;
- (b) whether Government has taken note of such brands; if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether such products have been tested according to FSSAI norms and recalled from Indian markets; if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI JITIN PRASADA)

(a) to (c) During the past ten years, no country has banned the export of food products due to presence of Group 1 carcinogens.

(d) & (e) Export consignments of food products are tested as per specifications of importing countries and as per norms fixed by competent authorities functioning under Ministry of Commerce & Industries. FSSAI through State/UTs and its Regional Offices including Authorised Officers at ports etc., conduct regular enforcement, surveillance, monitoring, inspection and random sampling of food products, to check & verify compliance of quality & safety requirements as laid down under the Food Safety & Standards Regulations.

In cases where the food samples are found to be non-conforming viz., sub-standard, misbranded, misleading & unsafe including substances/adulterants being potential carcinogenic, penal actions are initiated against the defaulting Food Business Operators, as per provisions of FSS Act, 2006 and Rules & Regulations made thereunder.
