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

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2133

ANSWERED ON 13/12/2024

RESTRICTIONS BY QATAR ON INDIAN EGG EXPORTS

2133. SHRI K.R.N. RAJESHKUMAR:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the recent restrictions imposed by Qatar on the size of Indian eggs being exported to that country;
- (b) if so, the steps being taken by Government to address these restrictions and facilitate continued access to the Qatar market for Indian egg producers; and
- (c) whether Government has considered sending a delegation to Qatar to engage in diplomatic discussions with Government of Qatar to resolve this issue and find a mutually beneficial solution?

ANSWER

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

- (a) The Government is aware of the recent changes in Qatar's policy regarding import of eggs in Qatar. As per the new regulations outlining requirements effective from November 10, 2024, the classification grade must be clearly specified on the label, with Grade "AA" requiring a weight of 70 grams per egg, Grade 'A' requiring 60 grams per egg, Grade 'B' requiring 50 grams per egg and Grade 'C' defined as less than 47.4 grams per egg. As per the new requirements, Qatar prohibits the import of Grade 'B' and 'C' eggs for direct consumer sale. These changes are not specific to India and apply to all countries.
- (b) & (c) The Indian Mission in Qatar has held consultations with representatives of Indian egg importing companies in Qatar. The Agricultural and processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) has also raised the issue with our embassy in Qatar for taking up the issue with the Qatari authorities through diplomatic channels. The Indian Mission in Qatar has raised the issue with Qatari authorities requesting them to allow continued import of Grade 'B' eggs from India and also reconsider the policy in respect of Grade 'C' eggs and has sought further meetings with concerned local authorities including the Ministry of Public Health and Qatar General Organisation for standardization and Meterology for protecting the interest of Indian exporters.
