

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5475**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 05<sup>th</sup> APRIL, 2023**

**REJECTION OF EXPORTED ITEMS**

**5475. SHRI GNANATHIRAVIAM S.:**

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

- (a) whether any complaint has been received on the food items such as tea, fruits etc. exported but rejected in the last three years due to use of insecticides and pesticides;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has fixed standards for the check of imported food items and other goods from foreign countries and their proper labelling; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**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) Importing countries have concerns relating to human, animal and plant health and hygiene and safety of food consumed by its citizens. As a measure of protection, importing countries resort to rejections of individual consignments on the ground of non-compliance with their prescribed norms/safety standards/ rules/regulations. The rejections can be due to various reasons viz. presence of pesticide or other chemical residues, improper packaging or labelling, poor quality etc. The data on complaints/rejections on the food items exported, specifically due to use of insecticides and pesticides, is not available. Export Inspection Council (EIC), a statutory body under Department of Commerce, and National Plant Protection Organization (NPPO) under Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare have been mandated to ensure that sanitary and phytosanitary, and quarantine standards of the importing countries are met before exports of food products.

(c) & (d) Yes Sir. The imported food products are regulated as per the provisions laid under Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 and regulations made thereunder. Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has developed the quality, safety and labelling standards for food products which are also applicable for imported food items. FSSAI regulations for imported food items are notified under Food Safety and Standards (Import) Regulation, 2017.

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