

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5019
TO BE ANSWERED ON 01ST APRIL, 2025

COMPLAINT REGARDING SALE OF CHINESE GARLIC

5019. SHRI SURESH KUMAR KASHYAP:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government has received any information or complaint about Chinese garlic (poisonous garlic) being sold in large numbers in the Indian market these days despite the ban imposed since many years, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether it is a serious issue not only for the economy but also for the health of the people of India; and
- (c) the route through which it has crossed the Indian border and reached the Indian markets and the steps taken by the Government so far to check it?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण राज्य मंत्री (SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR)

(a) to (c): The import of agricultural commodities is regulated through the Plant Quarantine (Regulation of Import into India) Order, 2003 and commodities are allowed for import after detailed pest risk analysis conducted by Directorate of Plant Protection Quarantine and Storage (DPPQ&S), Faridabad and accordingly pest mitigation measures adopted by exporting countries. Further, various agencies of Central Government namely Plant Quarantine Stations, Central Board of Indirect Taxes & Customs (CBIC) and Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) inspect the import of commodities and their mode of entry and take necessary action against the defaulters as per the provisions of Plant Quarantine Order, 2003 and Customs Act, 1962.

Due to repeated interceptions of quarantine significance fungus *Embellisia alli* and *Urocytis cepulae* in Garlic consignments imported from China, ban on import of Chinese Garlic has been imposed from 06.09.2005. CBIC has reported that Customs field formations & DRI has seized 546 metric tones of Chinese Garlic during 2023-24, and 507 metric tones during 2024-25. Further, Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has also received a complaint regarding sale of Chinese garlic in Chennai markets and has directed the Tamil Nadu Food Safety Department for monitoring and surveillance activities. All Plant Quarantine Stations under DA&FW has been directed to take necessary measures to stop illegal import of Chinese Garlic into the country.