

**Government of India
Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
Department of Consumer Affairs**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 330 (OIH)
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.07.2024**

BAN ON INDIAN SPICES

330. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN:
(OIH)

Will the Minister of **CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION** उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- whether many spices produced in India have been banned in some of the countries;
- if so, the reasons therefor;
- whether the same packaged spices are being sold and consumed across the country;
- whether pesticides are being used to make the packaged spices usable for longer periods; and
- if so, whether the Government has made any analysis of their adverse effects, if any on health?

ANSWER

**उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण राज्य मंत्री
(श्री बी.एल. वर्मा)**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI B.L.VERMA)**

(a) & (b) : Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce & Industry has informed that in **May 2024**, Government of Nepal prohibited importers from import, sale and distribution of four specific lots of spice mixture pertaining to two brands on account of media news and reports of higher levels of Ethylene Oxide than specified levels and also advised recall of these items from the market.

Pursuant to this, Spices Board took up the matter with the Indian Mission in Nepal for intimating to the Department of Food Technology & Quality (DFTQC), Government of Nepal, the steps that have been put in place by Spices Board in order to facilitate compliance of ETO standards of importing countries by exporters of Indian Spices, which inter alia included issuance of Comprehensive Guidelines to the Exporters for monitoring of ETO in raw materials procured by them as well as finished goods dispatched for exports by them.

(c) to (e) : Does not arise in view of (a) and (b) above.
