

NEWSLETTER THE SPICE AROMA

फेडरेशन ऑफ इंडियन स्पाइस स्टेकहोल्डर्स

Presented by Federation of Indian Spices Stakeholder,
Unjha, Gujarat, India. Volume 2 / Issue 12. July 2024.

THE THEME OF THE YEAR "CREATING SYNERGY BETWEEN FARMERS,
TRADERS AND GOVT"



Meeting with Shri Sunil Barthwal, IAS - Commerce Secretary, MoC&I, Govt. of India



From the chairman’s desk



Greetings from Federation of Indian Spice Stakeholders

In view of the export recalls, due to ethylene residues in Spices and other issues, Shri Sunil Barthwal, IAS, Commerce Secretary, MoC & I had called a meeting at New Delhi on 21.6.24 on the Quality aspects of various spices exported from India.

The meeting was attended by Addl. Secy, Chairman Spice Board, Secretary Spice Board, Senior officials from FSSAI, Ministry of Health and Family welfare, ICAR, Directorate of Plant Protection and Quarantine, Central Insecticides Board, Chairman APEDA.

Shri Tejus Gandhi, Hon'ary Secretary of FISS attended the meeting along with trade representatives of ISFEA, AISEF, IPSTA, WSO and other spice trade stakeholders.

FISS made a written submission of the issues faced by the spice trade like Difficulties faced by exporters from FSSAI while re-exporting of spices due to non-payment, etc. FISS also highlighted some suggestions for enhancing the acceptable quality aspect by the importing countries like Banning supply of chemical pesticides, providing Farmers with organic fertilizers, adequate training for following Good Agriculture Practice, Adoption of Integrated Pest Management, Organic crops and other sustainable crops to meet standard set by EU. It was also suggested to extend Product Link Incentives to farmers who adopt Integrated Pest Management (IPM).

There is positive move to include EtO in the legal list of pesticides as Fumigant after due process.

Spice trade is coordinating closely with FSSAI to find an amicable and acceptable solution to the Pesticide issue for the trade to run smoothly.

FISS has made representation to Commerce Secretary, PMO Office and FIEO to the Spice and Agro-products exporters whose business depends on shipment of their consignment through shipping vessels to request the Shipping companies to refrain from raising the freights which is adversely affecting the spice and Agro-products exporters who are working on wafer thin margin coupled with the challenges facing from other competing origins.

FISS also requested that the exporters should be given Freight subsidy to offset the losses incurred by the exporters due to the Exorbitant increase in Ocean freight rates

I am happy to inform that I will address the 2nd Edition of Afro World Agri Food Exhibition Conference & Award show is scheduled on 29th July 2024 at Dar E Salaam, Tanzania, Africa.

With warm regards

*Ashwin Nayak, Chairman,
Federation of Indian Spice Stakeholders*

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Federation of Indian Spice Stakeholders, Unjha, Gujarat Trustees and Board of Directors for the year 2024-2025	
Trustees	
1	Shri Pukhraj Chopra – Trustee
2	Shri Yogesh Mehta – Trustee
3	Shri Ashvin Patel – Trustee
4	Shri Mayur Mehta – Trustee In-charge Farmer Welfare Committee
5	Shri Suresh Chandarana - Trustee
Board of Directors	
1	Shri Ashwin Nayak, Founder - Chairman Federation
2	Shri U Karthik, Co-Chairman Federation
3	Shri Tejus Gandhi Hon’ Secretary, Federation
4	Shri Hardik Patel Hon’ Jt. Secretary, Federation
5	Shri Devendra Patel, Director, Past Chairman, Federation
6	Shri Mitesh Kumar Patel, Director & Past Chairman, Federation
7	Shri Kishore Shah Treasurer, Federation
8	Shri Bharat Dasani – Chairman North West Region
9	Shri Sameer Shah – Director International Trade
10	Shri Vijay Joshi – Director Media coordinator
11	Shri Niraj Patel – Director Govt. Co-ordination
12	Shri Faisal Sorathia – Director Membership Drive
13	Shri Sitaram Patel – Director Domestic Trade
14	Shri Tarun Patel – Director Official Spokesperson
15	Shri Aditya Mota – Director Event Co-coordinator
16	Shri Vinay Patel
17	Shri Hasmukh Patel
18	Shri Dinesh Bhattar
19	Shri Karan Ganatra
20	Shri Chirag Adhiya
21	Shri Arvind Ghodadra
22	Shri Ajay Goyal
23	Shri Ganeshan Pillai, Director General

Newsletter compiled by Ganeshan Pillai
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Views expressed in the FISS Newsletter – The Spice Aroma are Not necessarily those of Trustees, Board of Directors and Members of the Federation

EXPORT OF SEED SPICES FOR APRIL 2024

TOTAL EXPORT (CUMIN SEED/POWDER) MAY 2024

Export Data in Metric Ton	Jan-21	Jan-22	Jan-23	Jan-24
Cumin seed	12,967.01	13,428.59	8,049.17	13,231.19
Fennel Seed	1,541.34	1,468.66	2,167.91	3,752.14
Coriander	3,923.97	2,461.90	3,548.63	6,225.32
Fenugreek seeds	2,540.82	2,097.54	2,094.80	2,201.91
	Feb-21	Feb-22	Feb-23	Feb-24
Cumin seed	16,023.68	12,620.09	11,362.19	11882.46
Fennel Seed	3,048.28	2,561.75	951.47	1990.59
Coriander	2,177.30	2,249.89	3,637.07	6577.43
Fenugreek seeds	3,259.24	1,921.46	2,075.10	3691.74
	Mar-21	Mar-22	Mar-23	Mar-24
Cumin seed	33,203.08	13,406.43	18,552.11	33250.41
Fennel Seed	5,894.67	1,580.99	938.64	1882.75
Coriander	4,717.10	3,076.23	11,477.52	8289.76
Fenugreek seeds	2,157.24	2,408.14	1,879.40	3682.4
	Apr-21	Apr-22	Apr-23	Apr-24
Cumin seed	30,274.23	9,561.19	16281.87	39182.42
Fennel Seed	6,429.75	1,971.89	6388.14	13396.75
Coriander	4,813.83	3,124.17	10300.26	6054.49
Fenugreek seeds	2,836.86	3,886.70	2272.85	3562.39
	May-21	May-22	May-23	May-24
Cumin seed	19,452.49	13,372.75	24,794.40	
Fennel Seed	4,491.72	3,042.27	9,832.53	
Coriander	3,168.27	3,047.77	24,389.01	
Fenugreek seeds	3,176.70	3,777.38	3,848.12	
	Jun-21	Jun-22	Jun-23	
Cumin seed	28,650.05	19,534.38	10,411.13	
Fennel Seed	6,483.32	1,980.97	1,974.74	
Coriander	3,350.79	2,427.04	12,240.90	
Fenugreek seeds	2,243.63	3,330.71	1,702.06	
	Jul-21	Jul-22	Jul-23	
Cumin seed	22,544.96	19,096.00	8,297.80	
Fennel Seed	3,334.63	1,474.77	1,153.54	
Coriander	3,163.20	2,267.78	10,473.45	
Fenugreek seeds	2,824.62	3,291.27	2,375.79	
	Aug-21	Aug-22	Aug-23	
Cumin seed	15,631.39	23,477.82	8,081.60	
Fennel Seed	2,215.12	1,551.81	1,229.95	
Coriander	2,186.70	2,561.56	7,473.44	
Fenugreek seeds	1,850.26	3,031.30	2,071.68	
	Sep-21	Sep-22	Sep-23	
Cumin seed	12,987.45	17,154.81	7190.83	
Fennel Seed	1,885.01	1,181.65	1395.47	
Coriander	2,462.69	2,463.62	4810.78	
Fenugreek seeds	2,610.96	2,698.96	1408.17	
	Oct-21	Oct-22	Oct-23	
Cumin seed	9,352.20	11,700.55	7505.53	
Fennel Seed	1,881.96	1,188.55	1739.44	
Coriander	3,490.49	2,040.81	4916.84	
Fenugreek seeds	2,259.01	2,496.36	2498.75	
	Nov-21	Nov-22	Nov-23	
Cumin seed	9,580.17	10,503.69	9026.95	
Fennel Seed	3,055.49	1,640.76	2573.95	
Coriander	3,079.69	2,350.66	4197.41	
Fenugreek seeds	1,966.25	2,145.53	2059.68	
	Dec-21	Dec-22	Dec-23	
Cumin seed	10,981.05	11,794.50	13,403.06	
Fennel Seed	2,985.73	1,773.95	5,274.30	
Coriander	3,356.99	3,478.78	6,485.56	
Fenugreek seeds	3,706.45	1,860.29	2,729.71	

TOTAL EXPORT (CUMIN SEED/POWDER)					
MONTH	EXPORT(MT)	MONTH	EXPORT(MT)	MONTH	EXPORT(MT)
2022-23		2023-2024		(2024-2025)	
Mar-22	13597 MT	Mar-23	20148 MT	Mar-24	33230 MT
Apr-22	10475 MT	Apr-23	17169 MT	Apr-24	41185 MT
May-22	15639 MT	May-23	25975 MT	May-24	22885 MT
Jun-22	20345 MT	Jun-23	9829 MT		
Jul-22	20345 MT	Jul-23	7994 MT		
Aug-22	24439 MT	Aug-23	7640 MT		
Sep-22	16978 MT	Sep-23	7196 MT		
Oct-22	11508 MT	Oct-23	7627 MT		
Nov-22	11685 MT	Nov-23	9712 MT		
Dec-22	12100 MT	Dec-23	13725 MT		
Jan-23	9325 MT	Jan-24	14094 MT		
Feb-23	13117 MT	Feb-24	13585 MT		
TOTAL EXPORT	1,79,553 MT	TOTAL EXPORT	1,54,694 MT	TOTAL EXPORT	97,300 MT
(MARCH 2022 TO FEBRUARY 2023)	(CUMIN BAG EXPORT)	(MARCH 2023 TO FEBRUARY 2024)	(CUMIN BAG EXPORT)	(MARCH 2024 TO FEBRUARY 2025)	(CUMIN BAG EXPORT)
	55 KG = 32,64,600 LAKH BAGS		55 KG = 28,12,618 LAKH BAGS		55 KG = 17,69,090 LAKH BAGS

Kedia Advisory Services

Report for July 2024

Jeera Market Analysis: Robust Demand and Strategic Stockholding Drive Prices Up Amid Increased Production

In recent months, jeera prices have exhibited a steady upward trajectory, underscoring robust demand despite increased production. Between May and June 2024, prices escalated from Rs. 27,090 to Rs. 27,725, marking a 2.34% rise. This consistent increase is noteworthy given the substantial production boost, with the 2023-24 season's output projected at 860 lakh MT compared to 577 lakh MT in 2022-23. Typically, such a significant rise in production might temper price gains, but strong market demand has counterbalanced the supply surge, maintaining the bullish trend.

The market has also seen a slight uptick in jeera arrivals, which rose from 40,261 tonnes to 40,855 tonnes between mid-May and mid-June. This marginal increase in supply has not curbed the rising prices, indicating that demand remains robust and is efficiently absorbing the higher supply. The export market further exemplifies this strength, with exports climbing sharply from 32,127 tonnes in March to 38,027 tonnes in April. Such a notable increase in exports signifies strong international demand, which reduces domestic availability and exerts additional upward pressure on prices.

Farmers have played a strategic role in the current market dynamics by withholding their jeera stocks, anticipating even higher future prices. This withholding creates an artificial scarcity in the market, intensifying the supply tightness. Additionally, traders are exercising caution, preferring a "wait and watch" stance after liquidating significant quantities. This behaviour has resulted in a constrained market pipeline with minimal surplus stock, meaning any uptick in demand could lead to rapid price spikes.

On the supply front, the decline in imports—from 90.1 tonnes in March to 89.12 tonnes in April—indicates a tighter external supply, further supporting domestic price increases. As the cumin harvest concludes in key growing regions, daily arrivals have averaged 2,475 MT in Gujarat and 1,375 MT in Rajasthan. Despite a higher yield this year, the carry-forward stocks are low, and the persistent dry and hot weather in these regions is affecting new arrivals.

Moreover, cumin that meets IPM (Integrated Pest Management) standards is becoming increasingly scarce as the season draws to a close. Considering these factors, jeera prices are poised to target Rs. 31,500, with robust support around Rs. 26,500. The interplay of strong demand, strategic stockholding by farmers, cautious trading, and constrained supply dynamics continues to bolster the bullish sentiment in the jeera market.

Navigating the Turmeric Market: Supply Shortages, Weather Challenges, and Price Fluctuations Drive Bullish Trends

The turmeric market is currently navigating through a complex interplay of supply shortages, adverse weather conditions, and fluctuating market behaviour, all contributing to an upward price trajectory. The ongoing heatwave across India, coupled with significantly less rainfall in South India, has severely impacted crop production. The Indian Meteorological Department's forecast of continued hot weather and the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare's reduction in turmeric production estimates for the year 2023-24—from 1.130 million tonnes last year to 1.074 million tonnes this year—underscore the challenges facing the market.

The scarcity of turmeric due to these adverse conditions has tightened supply chains, pushing prices higher. This trend is evident in major turmeric-producing regions such as Sangli, Basmat, and Hingoli, where there is increased anticipation for expanded sowing areas. Despite

this, the market is not showing immediate signs of price softening. In Nizamabad, Telangana, one of the significant turmeric markets, prices have surged by 18% recently. The increase in open interest by 4.95%, closing at 18,030 contracts, further illustrates fresh buying activity and a bullish market sentiment. On the international front, turmeric export trends reveal a decline by 4.75% during April-March 2024 compared to the previous year, totalling 162,018.50 tonnes. This decline in exports, along with a 12.71% drop in imports to 14,637.55 tonnes, highlights the impact of rising domestic prices on global trade dynamics. Although March 2024 saw a 34.90% increase in turmeric exports compared to February, the figures were still 7.37% lower than in March 2023. Conversely, March imports rose by 32.70% year-on-year, reflecting fluctuating demand and supply conditions in the international market.

Despite the decline in exports, the domestic market remains robust, driven by strong demand for quality turmeric and limited sales from farmers expecting higher future prices. The overall market shows mixed signals: reduced production and arrivals suggest a bullish trend, yet prices fell due to low domestic demand and rising imports. Nonetheless, strong global export demand continues to provide some support. In conclusion, given the current market dynamics and anticipated challenges, the price trend for turmeric is expected to be bullish, targeting 20,500 with strong support at around 15,400.

Coriander Market Forecast: Reduced Production and Rising Demand Set the Stage for Significant Price Increases

The coriander market is poised for a notable price increase due to several converging factors. Firstly, there's a dramatic reduction in production for the 2023-24 season. Farmers have shifted their focus to more profitable crops like fennel and cumin, leading to a 50% drop in coriander output compared to last year. This substantial decrease has significantly tightened the supply, creating a ripe environment for price escalation as demand continues to outpace available stocks. Over the last two months, traders have observed robust consumption of coriander. Looking ahead to the second half of July, if the anticipated rains occur, local demand is expected to rise further.

However, with old stock depleting and new production at reduced levels, the market is bracing for a substantial price rise. Insights from key trading hubs like Ramganj Mandi and Gondal Mandi reinforce this outlook. Pramod Mittal from Ramganj Mandi forecasts a price increase of \$0.12-\$0.18 per kg during the latter part of July. Mihir International expects an even higher surge, predicting a rise of \$0.18-\$0.24 per kg due to low stock levels and the upcoming monsoon. This bullish sentiment is supported by a decline in arrivals, with figures dropping from 37,300 tonnes in April-May to 31,851 tonnes in May-June, signaling a tightening supply in the market.

Export dynamics add another layer to this scenario. Despite a recent decrease in exports from 8,289.76 tonnes in March to 6,054.49 tonnes in April, a resurgence in export demand is expected in the coming month. This will likely put additional pressure on domestic supplies, driving prices higher. While increased imports, rising from 721.04 tonnes in March to 930.87 tonnes in April, might exert a short-term moderating effect, they are not expected to significantly alter the overall bullish trend driven by the production shortfall and reduced arrivals. In summary, the coriander market is set for a bullish trend due to a combination of strong local demand, significantly reduced production, and anticipated export demand. The price trend for Dhaniya is expected to be bullish, targeting \$7,750 with strong support around \$7,200. Traders and stakeholders should prepare for these upcoming shifts and adjust their strategies accordingly.


HYGIENIZATION OF SPICES USING GAMMA RADIATION

Gamma Radiation Processing - Overview


Board of Radiation and Isotope Technology
RADIATION
EMISSION OR TRANSMISSION OF ENERGY IN FORM OF WAVES (ELECTROMAGNETIC WAVES)

HYGIENIZATION OF SPICES USING GAMMA RADIATION

GAMMA RADIATION
MOST ENERGETIC & PENETRATING



EFFECTS OF GAMMA RADIATION IN FOOD
IONIZING RADIATION




HYGIENIZATION OF SPICES USING GAMMA RADIATION

LOW DOSE APPLICATIONS

QUARANTINE & RIPENING DELAY

• UP TO 1 KGY DOSE

INSECT DE-INFESTATION



SPROUT INHIBITION

HYGIENIZATION OF SPICES USING GAMMA RADIATION

MEDIUM DOSE APPLICATIONS



• 1 TO 10 KGY DOSE


HYGIENIZATION OF SPICES USING GAMMA RADIATION

HIGH DOSE APPLICATIONS

PATHOGEN ELIMINATION
SHELF LIFE EXTENSION

HEALTHCARE PRODUCTS

• OVER 10 KGY DOSE



HYGIENIZATION OF SPICES USING GAMMA RADIATION

FOODS FOR ASTRONAUTS & PATIENTS WITH SEVERELY COMPROMISED IMMUNITY

ATOMIC ENERGY (Radiation processing of food) RULES, 2012

CLASS	FOOD	PURPOSE	DOSE LIMIT (KGY)	
			MIN	MAX
CLASS 1	BULBS, STEM AND ROOT TUBERS AND RHIZOMES	INHIBIT SPROUTING	0.02	0.2
CLASS 2	FRESH FRUITS AND VEGETABLES (OTHER THAN CLASS 1)	DELAY RIPENING	0.2	1.0
		INSECT DISINFESTATION	0.2	1.0
		SHELF LIFE EXTENSION	2.0	2.5
CLASS 3	CEREALS AND THEIR MILLED PRODUCTS, PULSES AND THEIR MILLED PRODUCTS	QUARANTINE APPLICATION	0.1	1.0
		INSECT DISINFESTATION	0.25	1.0

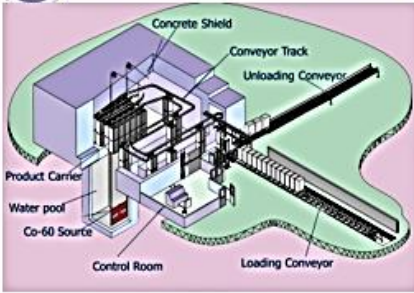
HYGIENIZATION OF SPICES USING GAMMA RADIATION

CLASS	FOOD	PURPOSE	DOSE LIMIT (KGY)
CLASS 4	NUTS, OIL SEEDS, DRIED FRUITS AND THEIR PRODUCTS	REDUCTION OF MICROBIAL LOAD	2.5
		ELIMINATION OF PATHOGENIC MICROORGANISMS	1.0
		SHELF LIFE EXTENSION	3.0
CLASS 5	FISH, AQUACULTURE, SEAFOOD AND THEIR PRODUCTS (FRESH OR FROZEN) AND CRUSTACEANS	CONTROL OF HUMAN PARASITES	0.3
		ELIMINATION OF PATHOGENIC MICROORGANISMS	2.0
		SHELF LIFE EXTENSION	3.0
CLASS 6	MEAT AND MEAT PRODUCTS INCLUDING POULTRY (FRESH AND FROZEN) AND EGGS	CONTROL OF HUMAN PARASITES	0.3
		MICROBIAL DECONTAMINATION	0.0
		INSECT DISINFESTATION	0.3
CLASS 7	DRY VEGETABLES, SEASONINGS, SPICES, CONDIMENTS, DRY HERBS AND THEIR PRODUCTS, TEA, COFFEE, COCOA AND PLANT PRODUCTS	CONTROL OF HUMAN PARASITES	0.3
		INSECT DISINFESTATION	0.3
		ELIMINATION OF PATHOGENIC MICROORGANISMS	2.0
CLASS 8	DRIED FOODS OF ANIMAL ORIGIN AND THEIR PRODUCTS	CONTROL OF HUMAN PARASITES	0.3
		ELIMINATION OF PATHOGENIC MICROORGANISMS	2.0
		QUARANTINE APPLICATION	0.25
CLASS 9	ETHNIC FOODS, MILITARY RATIONS, SPACE FOODS, READY-TO-EAT, READY-TO-COOK, MINIMALLY PROCESSED FOODS	REDUCTION OF MICROORGANISMS	2
		STERILIZATION	5
		STERILIZATION	25

HYGIENIZATION OF SPICES USING GAMMA RADIATION


RADIATION PROCESSING PLANT, VASHI

HYGIENIZATION OF SPICES USING GAMMA RADIATION



- COMMISSIONED IN JAN 2000
- FIRST FACILITY FOR COMMERCIAL RADIATION PROCESSING OF FOOD, MAINLY SPICES
- CAPACITY – 9000T SPICES PER YEAR
- PROCESSED APPROX. 75000T SPICE TILL DATE
- IN PROXIMITY TO APMC, VASHI
 - TOTAL 34 SUCH FACILITIES WITH SIMILAR OR HIGHER CAPACITIES HAVE BEEN COMMISSIONED IN THE COUNTRY IN PRIVATE & STATE GOVERNMENT SECTOR AS WELL.
- PROCESSING COST OF SPICES IS ₹8 TO ₹10 PER KG.

HYGIENIZATION OF SPICES USING GAMMA RADIATION



THE COUNTRY.

HYGIENIZATION OF SPICES USING GAMMA RADIATION

- PRIVATE SECTOR – 26
- STATE GOVERNMENT – 5
- CENTRAL GOVERNMENT – 3
- UNDER CONSTRUCTION – 9

BENEFITS OF RADIATION PROCESSING

- COLD PROCESS – HIGHLY SUITABLE FOR HEAT SENSITIVE PRODUCTS. DOES NOT DESTROY THE AROMA CONSTITUENTS.
- HIGHLY EFFECTIVE – ELIMINATES THE PATHOGENS COMPLETELY.

HYGIENIZATION OF SPICES USING GAMMA RADIATION

- PACKED PRODUCTS – PROCESSING OF PACKED PRODUCTS IS DONE SO THE PRODUCTS CAN BE SHIPPED DIRECTLY AS NO REPACKAGING IS REQUIRED.
- NO RESIDUE – AS NO CHEMICAL IS USED FOR TREATMENT, THE PRODUCT IS RESIDUE (PERTAINING TO RADIATION) FREE.
- NO AERATION, PURGING OR HOLDING IS REQUIRED. THE PRODUCTS CAN BE TRANSPORTED IMMEDIATELY AFTER TREATMENT.

BENEFITS OF RADIATION PROCESSING

- IT IS NOT AN ALTERNATE TO GMP.
- IT PRESERVES THE FOOD IN NATURAL FORM



HYGIENIZATION OF SPICES USING GAMMA RADIATION

- PRIVATE SECTOR – 26
- STATE GOVERNMENT – 5
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BENEFITS OF RADIATION PROCESSING

- IT IS NOT AN ALTERNATE TO GMP.
- IT PRESERVES THE FOOD IN NATURAL FORM



HYGIENIZATION OF SPICES USING GAMMA RADIATION

- IT CAN NOT MAKE THE ALREADY SPOILT FOOD GOOD.
- IT CAN ENHANCE THE QUALITY OF FOOD BY INCREASING THE SHELF LIFE (AVOIDING THE SPOILAGE) & ELIMINATING CONSUMPTION).



Thankyou

Meeting on Quality aspects of various spices exported from India



Shri Sunil Barthwal, IAS, Commerce Secretary, MoC & I had called a meeting at New Delhi on 21.6.24 with regards to Quality aspects of various spices exported from India. The meeting was attended by Addl. Secy, Chairman Spice Board, Secretary Spice Board, Senior officials from FSSAI, Ministry of Health and Family welfare, ICAR, Directorate of Plant Protection and Quarantine, Central Insectides Board, Chairman APEDA.

Shri Tejus Gandhi, Hon'ary Secretary of FISS attended the meeting along with trade representative of ISFEA, AISEF, IPSTA, WSO.

FISS made the following written submission to the Commerce Secretary

1. Ban supply of chemical pesticides. Farmers to be provided with organic fertilizers and training to be given for usage of Good Agriculture Practice and adoption of Integrated Pest Management, Organic crops and other sustainable crops meeting the EU standards.
2. In some countries green channel clearance is given for spices from other origin while Indian spices are subject to strict regulations.
3. The MRL imposed on spices of Indian Origin may be sort of creating Non-trade barriers for Indian Agro-products
4. Central Government has implemented Product Link Incentives (PLI) scheme for manufacturing and other sector, similar scheme of PLI schemes should be extended to the farmers who adopt Integrated Pest Management (IPM) by giving Rs 10/15 per kg Extra (Premium) above prevailing Prices in Marketing Yard for at least next 5 years than only farmer will go for IPM. This is must, so that farmers switch over to IPM crops.
5. The MRL tolerance level of Pesticide set by the importing countries should be sought and confirmed by the regulatory authorities from time to time enabling their compliance and sustaining the export of Spice and Spice product from India.
6. Arunachal Pradesh has declared as the organic state same should be encouraged for other states in India.
7. India has lost Chilly export to Mexico which is now catered by China. It is pertinent to note that China imports Chilly from India and the same is now re-exported to Mexico, we have not only lost the chilly trade directly to Mexico but have also adversely affected our Foreign exchange earnings.

Food Safety and Standards Authority of India

FSSAI in case of recall of products from another country due to various reasons viz non-payment by the buyers, etc FSSAI imposes strict laws when it is re-exported although they are of India origin.

- a) We request that FSSAI needs to be more practical in implementing the pesticides MRLs in the domestic market as only 10% of the entire farm production is of IPM and organic variety.
- b) It is strongly suggested that unless and until farmers are not educated about the adverse effect of 700 pesticides which are banned by EU, nothing positive will happen.

- c) Further, All Marketing Yard Chairman should provide list of such banned Pesticides to the farmers those who bring their Cargo in Yard.
- d) Current MRLs are very difficult to be matched when only 10% trade is organic and IPM crops rest 90% trade is dealing in conventional grown crops.

Taking into consideration from the ground realities in India about the crop grown and also from the available data that out of 160 countries, India ranks 113 in usage of sustainable pesticide. In light of the above fact, the MRL norms followed by India be projected as safe and within the tolerance and acceptable level of all importing countries.

The following matter was discussed and deliberated at the meeting headed by Commerce Secretary

A. Spices Board highlighted the following

- Action taken by them after the reports of recall of certain spices in Hong Kong and Singapore.
- Data was shown of the rejections of Indian Spices on account of presence of ETO or pesticides above acceptable levels in importing countries.
- Overall rejection of exports consignments in various countries was around 0.3%
- Exports data for spices of May 2024 saw a dip compared to May 2023 due to abnormal higher exports of seed spices particularly coriander, cumin and fennel to China last year.
- Spices Board was informed to take timely steps to clarify the media reports on account of incident related to EtO, MRL.
- Exporters should keep themselves regularly updated about the prescribed ETO level in the importing country and for their strictly adhere to respective norms.
- Exporters to ensure that the EtO treatment facilities are run as per strict protocols and manpower manning the EtO treatment facilities in the units are fully trained and sensitized. Associations was requested to take proactive action and percolate the message to their members

B. Pesticides: While the industry agreed that the use of pesticides need to be checked at the grower level. For improving the ecosystem Increase Awareness among farmers on the use of the right pesticides that are approved (have label claim) for that particular spice/ crop, and also in the right quantity.

Ministry of Agriculture was informed that their interventions for creating awareness may be strengthened, including setting up Committees at the State and District levels.

C. FSSAI: Star Grading/Certification of Spices Manufacturers/Brands:

FSSAI in consultation with Spices Board and the Associations, should formulate a star grading/ certification for manufacturers/exporters based on quality parameters with a view to allow consumers to make informed choice.

D. Central Insecticides Board & Registration Committee (CIBRC) informed that sufficient data has to be generated and submitted by the pesticide manufacturing company. Lack of such data hampers the process of label claim approvals.

CIBRC was advised to share the monitoring data on pesticides for spices, which is being shared with FSSAI to be also shared with Spices Board and Industry Associations

E. Trade Barriers: It was pointed out that importing jurisdictions such as EU gives differing treatment to Indian spice exports vis-à-vis Spices exported from other countries. Industry Associations should provide details in this regard to the Department of Commerce/ Spices Board.

Red chilli exports hit all-time high at \$1.5 b in FY24

Vishwanath Kulkarni
Bengaluru

Robust demand from China and Bangladesh has pushed up Indian red chilli exports to a record \$1.509 billion in FY23-24, an increase of 15 per cent over the previous year. In 2022-23, chilli exports stood at \$1.30 billion. In rupee terms, chilli exports during 2023-24 stood at ₹12,492 crore, registering a growth of 18 per cent over the previous year's ₹10,564 crore.

As per the Spices Board data, chilli exports during 2023-24 were up 15 per cent in volume at 6.01 lakh tonnes (lt), over the previous year's 5.24 lt. Chilli exports of \$1.50 billion accounted for about 34 per cent of India's total spices exports during 2023-24, estimated at \$4.46 billion.

China was the biggest buyer of Indian chillies during 2023-24, with shipments



GETTING HOTTER. Chilli exports during 2023-24 were up 15% in volume at 6.01 lt, over the previous year's 5.24 lt

exceeding 1.79 lt valued at over ₹4,123 crore. Compared to the previous year, chilli shipments to China were up 14 per cent in volume and about 21 per cent in rupee value terms. In 2022-23, China had imported over 1.57 lt of Indian red chillies worth ₹3,408 crore.

In fact, after touching a record volume of 1.91 lt during 2021-22, China's chilli imports from India dropped to

1.57 lt during 2022-23. However, during 2023-24, red chilli shipments to China rebounded due to growing demand from both the oleoresin and the food and culinary sectors. China buys mainly the Teja variety for oleoresin extraction.

Exports to Thailand, the second-largest buyer of Indian chillies in value terms, increased to ₹1,404 crore, up 10.6 per cent from the previ-

ous year's ₹1,269 crore. In volume terms, chilli exports during 2023-24 were up by about a tenth at 59,838 tonnes from the previous year's 54,512 tonnes.

Shipments to neighbouring Bangladesh rose by a whopping 67 per cent during 2023-24 to about 90,570 tonnes from the previous year's 53,986 tonnes. In value terms, chilli exports to Bangladesh were up 35 per cent at ₹1,210 crore from the previous year's ₹892 crore.

Also, chilli exports to the USA were up by a fourth at 36,413 tonnes from the previous year's 29,173 tonnes. In value terms, chilli exports to the USA were up 42 per cent at ₹1,141 crore from the previous year's ₹803 crore.

Chilli is a major commercial cash crop grown by farmers across the country, and the production of both green and red varieties is on the rise.

Spice manufacturers urge govt to stop pesticide usage in farming

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Jaipur: Admitting that Indian spices may contain some quantity of pesticides, Indian spice makers have appealed to the Rajasthan govt to involve the agriculture department to restrict usage of pesticides during farming.

“No spice manufacturer in the country adds any pesticides to spices during any stage of manufacturing and packaging. If there are any pesticides in spices, they are used during the farming process. We have requested the govt to address this issue at the farming level,” said Sashank Jhalani, president of CIBA Spices group.

Manufacturers claimed that in no way can they solve this problem, as there is no technology available that can remove the pesticide content of a plant at the time of processing it into spices.

Also, the idea of procuring only selected pesticideless plants will not work, as



Spice manufacturers claimed pesticides used in farming cannot be removed during processing

all farmers in the state and across the country believe in heavy use of pesticides.

“If the govt wants spices to be pesticide-free, the govt has to motivate farmers to stop using pesticides and can also give opinions on other scientific means to increase production. We have never been told to carry out pesticide tests for spices. However, the tests we undertake before sending our pro-

ducts to market reveal that our product is safe to consume,” said Suresh Rathi, vice president of MDH Limited.

Manufacturers said that following media reports on the health department recalling batches of products by a few renowned manufacturing units of the state, their trade has been severely affected, especially products like kasuri methi, which is indigenous to the Nagaur district of the state.

The manufacturers are suspecting an international conspiracy in the entire episode. “First, a few countries have banned Indian spices which triggered the Food Safety and Standard Authority of India (FSSAI) to ask the state govts to keep a vigil on Indian spices. All the Indian govts should realise that it's an international conspiracy and – in all probability – the Chinese govt is behind this conspiracy,” said Babulal Gupta, president of Bharatiya Vyapar Udyog Mandal.

Spice exports slip 20% in May amid safety, quality concerns

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, JUNE 14

AMID AN overall uptick in India's goods exports during May, spice exports in May slipped 20 per cent year-on-year, official trade data released Friday showed. This comes after Hong Kong and Singapore in April found higher than permissible levels of pesticide ethylene oxide (EtO) in MDH and Everest shipments.

After registering a 51 per cent and 12 per cent year-on-year jump in spice exports in March and April respectively, spice exports slipped by 20.28 per cent in May to \$361.17 million. On a sequential basis too, spice exports slipped 10 per cent in May compared to \$405.62 million exports in April this year.

Notably, in 2023-24, India's spice exports totalled \$4.25 billion compared to \$3.7 billion in 2022-23. India's exports account for a 12 per cent share of the global spice exports. The major spices exported from India include chilli powder, cumin, turmeric and cardamom among others. The Spices Board of India had said last month that it is carrying out inspections in several MDH and Everest processing plants in the country to ensure

EXPLAINED
E India's spice export

INDIA'S EXPORTS account for a 12 per cent share of the global spice exports. The major spices exported from India include chilli powder, cumin, turmeric and cardamom among others.

that spice exports meet the requirement in the respective export destination adding that corrective actions such as use of steam sterilisation technology and tracking of the food supply chain is being looked at to prevent future rejections.

This came after Hong Kong on April 5 asked its citizens not to consume four products of Indian manufacturers MDH and Everest Food Products citing the presence of pesticide, ethylene oxide (EtO). Later on April 18, Singapore Food Agency (SFA) ordered the recall of Everest's fish curry masala stating that it had ethylene oxide at a level which is “not fit for human consumption”.

FULL REPORT ON
www.indianexpress.com

File No. 01/94/180/341/AM20/PC-4
Government of India
Ministry of Commerce and Industry
Department of Commerce
Directorate General of Foreign Trade
Vaniya Bhawan, New Delhi 110001

Dated: 28th June 2024

Trade Notice No. 07/2024-2025

To,

Members of Trade and Industry
EPCs/FIEO
Reserve Bank of India

Subject: Extension of Interest Equalisation Scheme (IES) for Pre and Post shipment Rupee Export Credit for two months beyond 30th June, 2024.

Trade and Industry is hereby informed that the Interest Equalization Scheme for Pre and Post Shipment Rupee Export Credit, which had earlier been extended up to 30.06.2024 as a fund limited scheme, has been further extended for two months i.e., up to 31.08.2024.

- However, this extension is applicable only for MSME exporters, and for such extended period, the total outlay of the scheme is capped at Rs. 750 Cr. Apart from that, such extension is made with the same terms and conditions as the present scheme.
- Claims of non-MSME exporters are not to be entertained beyond 30th June, 2024.
- Guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India and relevant RBI notifications issued from time to time on this subject may be referred.

(K. M. Harilal)
Jt. Director General of Foreign Trade
DGFT (HQ)



NIRMALA SITHARAMAN

Finance Minister

- “ GST council has decided to waving interest and penalties notices for FY18 to FY21
- Also recommended that the time limit to avail input tax credit for FY18 to FY21 may be deemed
- Time limit to file GSTR4 to be extended to June 30 from 30th April to help small tax payers
- Pre-deposit for filing appeals to be brought down

DGFT seeks export bodies' input on interest equalisation scheme

INTEREST SOP. Some exporters' bodies battling for continuation of scheme with higher rates

Anil Sen
New Delhi

The DGFT has sought information from various export bodies on the trade finance eco-system in India and related challenges to assess if the government's interest equalisation scheme for exporters is yielding results and how trade finance can be improved.

"The DGFT has been asked by the Finance Ministry to show that the interest equalisation scheme is yielding results. It has asked us for certain details for a study on trade finance it is carrying out. We have already provided those details to the DGFT. Once all export bodies give their submission, a report would be put together," a representative of a Delhi-based export body told *businessline*.

The interest equalisation scheme, first implemented in April 2015 for five years, allows exporters of 410 identified products and all



CRITICAL IMPACT. According to exporters body FIEO, the interest equalisation scheme has provided much-needed competitiveness to Indian exports

exporters from the MSME sector, to get bank credit at a subsidised interest rate determined by the government. The banks are reimbursed by the government for their lower interest earnings.

The latest extension given to the scheme is set to lapse on June 30 2024.

THE OBJECTIVE

"The objective of the study being carried out by DGFT

is to identify the current challenges faced by the institutions across the entire trade finance supply chain. The study is to help the department to assess the key gaps and make necessary recommendations to ensure seamless facilitation of trade finance in India," per an internal document circulated to its members by an export body.

According to exporters body FIEO, the interest

equalisation scheme has served an important purpose as it has provided much-needed competitiveness to Indian exports, particularly to MSMEs, as the interest costs in India are much above that in competitors' countries.

INTEREST EXTENSION

"We not only want the interest equalisation scheme to continue, we want the rates to be increased to the previous levels and have communicated as much to the DGFT. The rates were reduced when the repo rate was brought down to 4.4 per cent. Again, it has increased to 6.5 per cent. That's why a 2 per cent enhancement in subvention should happen," said Ajay Sahai, DG, FIEO.

At present, MSMEs are provided a subvention of 3 per cent and the other eligible sectors 2 per cent. As the interest equalisation scheme is valid till June 30, a decision on its extension is likely to be taken by the new government at the Centre.

Exporters' body seeks five-year extension of interest subsidy scheme

Our Bureau
New Delhi

In a pre-Budget meeting with Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Tuesday, exporters body FIEO has sought five year extension of the interest subsidy scheme on loans, increase in tax deduction for R&D spends, more funds for marketing and establishment of an Indian shipping line of global repute to reduce dependence on foreign shipping lines.

"The interest equalisation scheme is helping exports a lot. We request the scheme which is valid till June 30, 2024 may be extended for a period of 5 years," FIEO President Ashwini Kumar, who participated in the meeting with PM, pointed out. He also made a case for restoring the subvention (subsidy) rate from 3 per cent to 5 per cent for manu-

facturers in MSMEs and from 2 per cent to 3 per cent for all other exporting the 410 identified tariff lines. The argument is that this was needed as interest rates had risen consequent to increase in repo rate from 4.4 per cent to 6.5 per cent in the last 2 years.

SHIPPING LINE

Pointing out that R&D and innovation were key to sustain exports, FIEO noted that 35 out of 38 OECD countries provided either lower tax or higher deduction on R&D expenditure. "We request that the weighted tax deduction under Section 35 (2AB) may be increased to 250-300 per cent and the benefit under Section 35 (2AB) may also be extended to Limited Liability Partnership (LLP), partnership firms and proprietary firms, as MSME units largely fall in these

categories," Kumar said. On the lines of the government initiative for facilitating container manufacturing in the country to become 'atma nirbhar', FIEO requested that a similar focus should be on developing an Indian shipping line of global repute. "We remitted over \$109 billion as transport service charge in 2022. A 25 per cent share taken by the Indian shipping line can save \$50 billion year-on-year basis. This will also reduce arm twisting by foreign shipping lines, particularly of our MSMEs," FIEO pointed out.

The exporters' body also called for increase in marketing support provided through the Market Access Initiative scheme of the government to ₹500 crore from ₹200 crore to better showcase Indian products at global platforms.

World container shipping rates keep rising amid port congestion

Bloomberg
feedback@livemint.com

Inflation looks to be easing across the developed world, except for one glaring pocket of hot prices: cargo costs on the high seas.

Spot rates for full-size shipping containers to the United States and Europe from Asia increased again in the most recent data, with three key routes all topping \$6,000 for a 40-foot equivalent unit, according to the Drewry World Container Index, released on Thursday.

They have all tripled since the end of 2023, though the

pace of increases is moderating.

Nearly six months of regular attacks on vessels in the Red Sea has stretched capacity in an industry responsible for moving about 80% of all international goods trade, disrupting the normal flow and leading to bottlenecks in some of Asia's biggest ports.

Singapore's maritime gateway, among the world's most vital crossroads for seaborne freight, is facing a sustained period of congestion.

The waiting time for berth space there is nearing five days, according to industry estimates, and it's ranging



Drewry index expects freight rates from China will continue to rise next week due to congestion issues at Asian ports.

from one to four days in the Chinese ports of Ningbo, Shanghai and Qingdao.

On top of stretched supply, demand for goods is solid especially in the U.S. Imports

at the Port of Los Angeles, the busiest seaport in the U.S., remained above the pre-pandemic peak in the first five months of 2024 despite ticking down in May.

According to Drewry, the cost of a 40-foot container to move merchandise to Los Angeles from Shanghai last week rose 0.8% to \$6,025. That was the sixth straight week of gains.

The charge for Shanghai to Rotterdam increased 2.4% to \$6,177, the highest level since

September 2022. From Shanghai to Genoa, Italy, in the Mediterranean Sea — among the routes hardest

hit by the shipping industry's avoidance of the Red Sea — the rate rose by 3% to \$6,862, according to Drewry. That was also the highest since September 2022.

Drewry also said that it "expects that freight rates from China will continue to rise next week due to congestion issues at Asian ports."

Container rates to US, Europe from Asia rose, with 3 key routes all topping \$6,000 for a 40-foot equivalent unit

Exporters seek govt push for shipping line

MUKESH JAGOTA
New Delhi, June 25

EXPORTERS HAVE CALLED for a government-led initiative to develop an India-based shipping line of global standing. This would reduce the shipping costs and help sharpen Indian exports' competitiveness in the global markets, they feel.

According to the Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO), India remitted \$109 billion as transport service charge in 2020 and with rising exports, it could touch \$200 billion as exports touch \$1 trillion by 2030.

"A 25% share by Indian shipping line can save \$50 billion a year and will also reduce

arm-twisting by foreign shipping lines on medium and small businesses," FIEO president Ashwani Kumar said at a pre-Budget

meeting with finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman and officials of the finance ministry. The meeting with the trade and services sector also saw participation of export promotion councils for marine, leather, and gems and jewellery. The National Association of Software and Services Companies (Nasscom), Federation of Hotel and Restaurant Association of India (FHRAI), and regional chambers of commerce and industry also participated in the meeting.



Finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman chairs a pre-Budget consultation with representatives of the trade and services sector in New Delhi on Tuesday. They requested the government to increase the budget for marketing support under the market access initiative to ₹500 crore annually from ₹200 crore

According to reports, the government is also looking at the idea of a shipping line but what form it would take is yet to be known. Apart from costs, the Indian-owned shipping line would address the issue of international vessels skipping India if they get more cargoes in Southeast Asia.

In the meeting with the services and trade sector, the other demands that were raised by FIEO, which is the apex body for export promotion across sectors, included extension of interest equalisation scheme that is expiring by the end of this month for another five years. They are also seeking an increase in the interest

subsidy to 5% from 3%. The demand was also made for increasing the budget for marketing support under the market access initiative (MAI) to ₹500 crore annually from ₹200 crore.

The chairman of the Council for Leather Exports, Rajendra Jalan, demanded bringing the leather and footwear sector under the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme, removal of 10% duty on import of a certain variety of leathers, and removal of export duty on some others which are produced locally.

At the meeting, Gems and Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC) chairman Vipul Shah

sought reduction in import duty on precious metals to 4% from 15%. This will ensure that duty blockage of around ₹982.16 crore can be released resulting in more working capital in hand for industry. Untapped export potential for gold jewellery can be realised with more working capital (at least \$2 billion of \$13 billion in medium period of two years). GJEPC also sought reduction in import duty on silver bar from 10% to 4% and on platinum bars from 12.5% to 4%.

In FY24 gems and jewellery exports fell 13.8% year-on-year to \$32.7 billion while leather export were down 5.9% to \$4.2 billion.

TO THE
GET
4-25

A 25% Share by Indian Liner can Save \$50 b a Year: FIEO

Our Bureau

New Delhi: Exporters sought the creation of an Indian shipping line, duty cuts on import of products like wet blue leather, extension of a key scheme for small exporters to avail pre- and post-shipment rupee-export credit, and duty drawback for platinum jewellery at their pre-budget meeting with finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Tuesday.

Highlighting the need for an Indian shipping line, the Federation of Indian Export Organisations president Ashwani Kumar said that India's outward remittance on transport services is increasing with rising exports. "We remitted over \$109 billion as transport service charge in 2022. As the country moves towards the goal of \$1 trillion, this will touch \$200 billion by 2030. A 25% share by the Indian shipping line can save \$50 billion on

Key Demands

- Global shipping line to lower transit costs
- Lower duty on some leather imports
- EXTENSION OF KEY EXPORT CREDIT SCHEME
- Duty drawback for platinum jewellery
- Fast-track SME delayed payments

a year-on-year basis," he said. The apex association of exporters also sought an extension of the interest equalisation scheme with higher incentives. At present, manufacturers and merchants exporting specified 410 products get 2% subsidy and all exporters from MSMEs get 3%. The scheme is valid till June 30. Senior officials of the ministries of commerce and industry, and finance were present at the meeting. Software services industry body Nasscom has asked for an

easier transfer pricing regime for ease of doing business, clarity on the proposed deep tech policy and enhancing the scope of the safe harbour regime by increasing the threshold limit to ₹2,000 crore from ₹200 crore in international transactions for the benefit of global capability centres. "We have presented a study on safe harbour rules to the finance ministry and made a case for allowing more companies to opt for it and make it competitive. On advance pricing agreements, we want that renewals should be done on a fast-track," said Nasscom's head of public policy, Ashish Aggarwal.



Congestion at Singapore, Shanghai/Ningbo ports adds to woes of the shipping industry

T E Raja Simhan
Chennai

While there is no respite in the Middle East for the shipping industry that continues to face hardships due to the suspension of the Red Sea route, there is now tension in the South East as well due to severe congestion at the Singapore port and China's Shanghai/Ningbo ports.

Data by Linerlytica show that 51 ships are at the Singapore port while 40 more are waiting at the anchorage. Similarly, at Shanghai/Ningbo port, 92 ships are at the port while 81 are waiting at the anchorage. Cumulatively, there are nearly 8 lakh TEUs (twenty foot equivalent units) on board the ships at the two ports while another 6.50 lakh boxes are on board the vessels waiting at the anchorage of the two ports.

Bunching of vessels has led to major disruptions in the region and has affected the ship rotation. Ships with containers are



VITAL LINK. Indian trade uses the Singapore port as a major transshipment hub S.L.O.C.H.INDIA

waiting outside the two ports for over a week as against the usual availability of berth on arrival or waiting of just a day or two, said sources.

Indian trade uses the Singapore port as a major transshipment hub to supply goods in the region and connect with the large 'mother' vessels to take the goods to Europe.

Due to the delay, many container ships are skipping the Singapore port. "We are unable to plan the exact date of supply of the cargo at the destination," said P Mathan of Thaipan Global Trading, Chennai, which

exports red chilli and onion to South East Asian countries using the Singapore port as the transshipment hub.

Israr Ahmed, Vice-President, FIEO, said the major disruption at Singapore is having a spillover effect on neighbouring ports like Port Klang, which is also a major transshipment port used by Indian trade. It is estimated that nearly 7 per cent of the global ships are now caught up in this congestion. There are bound to be delays and cost implications for exporters, he said.

German shipping research firm Container xChange said

due to the demand and supply situation, the average prices for 20 ft dry containers are rising at a similar pace in Singapore - from \$950 in September 2023 to over \$1,200 now.

ALTERNATIVE PORTS

Several shipping lines have started avoiding Singapore in favour of other regional ports. For instance, Mediterranean Shipping Company has diverted some transshipment operations to Indian ports, while carriers such as ONE and OOCL are discharging Singapore-bound cargo at Port Klang in Malaysia. This shift is putting additional pressure on these alternative ports, exacerbating regional congestion and delays, the firm said.

"The persistent congestion at a key hub like Singapore can impact global trade flows, affecting the movement of goods between Asia, Europe, and the Americas," said Christian Roeloffs, Co-founder and CEO of Container xChange.

Govt seeks industry inputs for trade pact with Malaysia

STOCKTAKING. Review based on feedback will help increase exports, bridge trade deficit

Amiti Sen
New Delhi

Saddled with a high trade deficit more than a decade after implementing a free trade agreement with Malaysia, India is set to begin a review process of the pact in a joint commission meeting to be held soon with its trade partner to expand and diversify the trade basket and make it more balanced, sources have said.

"The Commerce Department has sought inputs from various industry bodies and export promotion councils on the tariff and non-tariff barriers they face in Malaysia, the regulatory issues that are acting as hindrances and the measures that could help trade facilitation. These would be part of India's agenda in the joint commission meeting



YAWNING GAP. In 2010-2011, when the India-Malaysia CECA was signed, India's trade deficit with Malaysia was at \$2.65 billion; it widened to \$5.49 billion in 2023-24

for reviewing the India-Malaysia free trade pact. The idea is to increase exports and bridge the trade deficit," a source tracking the matter told *businessline*.

The free trade pact or CECA (Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement) between Malaysia and India was implemented in July 2011 covering trade in goods, ser-

vices, investments and economic cooperation. In the area of goods in the CECA, both countries offered tariff liberalisation beyond the India-ASEAN FTA commitments on items of mutual interest for both.

TRADE DEFICIT UP

However, like in the case of the India-ASEAN FTA, India's trade deficit increased

with Malaysia after the implementation of the CECA. In 2010-2011, when the India-Malaysia CECA was signed, India's trade deficit with Malaysia was at \$2.65 billion with its exports valued at \$3.87 billion and imports at \$6.52 billion. The trade deficit widened to \$5.49 billion in 2023-24, with India's exports to Malaysia at \$7.26 billion and imports at \$12.75 billion.

The government has asked various sectors to list out products where tariffs in Malaysia are still high and could lead to greater market access if lowered.

"Information has also been sought on any non tariff barriers being faced by Indian exporters, for instance those related to sanitary & phytosanitary standards and technical barriers to trade," the source said.

Minister: Govt to launch ₹680 cr scheme for chemical-free farming

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

SHIMLA, JUNE 25
Education Minister Rohit Thakur today claimed that the reduction in the Goods and Services Tax (GST) on cartons from 18 per cent to 12 per cent was the outcome of the efforts made by Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu and Industries Minister Harshwardhan Chauhan. He accused the previous BJP government of neglecting the interests of the farmers and horticulturists.

He said, “The Jai Ram Thakur government had failed to give any relief to fruit growers and it could not even get the GST on cartons reduced during its tenure.” He added the present Congress government had restored the insecticide and pesticide subsidy discontinued by the BJP government. “This subsidy is crucial for horticulturists and its restoration is part of a broader strategy to support the agriculture and horticulture sectors,” Rohit Thakur claimed.

The minister said the state government was also

SUBSIDY ON PESTICIDES RESTORED



its restoration is part of a strategy to support the agriculture and horticulture sectors. Rohit Thakur, EDUCATION MINISTER

“The state government has restored the subsidy on insecticides and pesticides that the previous BJP government had discontinued. This subsidy is crucial for horticulturists and its restoration is part of a strategy to support the agriculture and horticulture sectors. Rohit Thakur, EDUCATION MINISTER

launching the Rs 680 crore ‘Rajiv Gandhi Prakritik Kheti Start-up Yojana’ to promote chemical-free farming and so far 36,000 farmers have adopted this method. “The e-udyan portal was benefiting 28,358 horticulturists and a processing plant costing over 100 crores had also been dedicated to the farmers, which reflect the commitment of the government to ensure welfare of the fruit growers,” said Rohit.

Additionally, he said, measures are underway to boost the animal husbandry sector. “The government has raised the MSP for cow milk to Rs 45 per litre and buffalo milk to Rs 55 per litre, making Himachal the sole state purchasing milk

at the MSP. Moreover, the ‘Him-Ganga’ scheme includes establishing a fully automated milk plant in Kangra district to significantly enhance dairy capacity and product diversity for sustained farmer benefits.

The minister said the establishment of eight new Controlled Atmosphere (CA) storage facilities had helped in boosting the fruit shelf life and minimising post-harvest losses.

“The introduction of the universal carton system standardises fruit packaging, reduces damage during transport, and enhances marketability, ensuring better prices and competitiveness for farmers in domestic and international markets,” the minister said.

In a recent regulation, the approval of the molecules dimethomorph and mepanipyrim have not been renewed in European Union. The regulations can be accessed here: [Dimethomorph Mepanipyrim](#)

European Union has also announced new MRLs for the pesticide Deltamethrin in spices which will come into effect on 11 June 2024. The MRLs are given below. The regulation can be accessed [here](#).

Spice	Recent Regulation	Applicable MRLs
Seed spices	0.05*	0.1*
Fruit spices	0.05*	15
Bark spices	0.05*	0.1*
Root and rhizome spices	0.5*	0.5*
Bud spices	0.05*	15
Flower pistil spices	0.05*	15
Aril spices	0.05*	0.1*

ઉઝા એપીએમસીમાં કોમ્પ્યુટર ઓપરેટર તરીકે જોડાયેલા ઉજાસ આચાર્યની સેક્રેટરીપદે નિમણૂક



ઉઝા : વિશ્વપ્રસિદ્ધ ઉઝા ખેતીવાડી ઉત્પન્ન બજાર સમિતિના ઇન્ચાર્જ સેક્રેટરી તરીકે દિનેશભાઈ પટેલની મુદત પૂર્ણ થયે નવા સેક્રેટરી તરીકે ઉજાસ અરવિંદભાઈ આચાર્યની નિમણૂક કરાતાં શનિવારે તેમણે વિધિવત ચાર્જ સંભાળ્યો હતો. ચેરમેન દિનેશભાઈ પટેલ સહિત ડિરેક્ટરો, કર્મચારીઓ, વેપારી મંડળના હોદ્દાઓ, મિત્રો સહિત શુભેચ્છકોએ તેમને બુકે આપી મોં મીઠું કરાવી શુભેચ્છા પાઠવી હતી. ઉઝા એપીએમસીમાં 23 વર્ષથી કોમ્પ્યુટર ઓપરેટર તરીકે ફરજ બજાવતા સરળ સ્વભાવના અને કર્મનિષ્ઠ ઉજાસ આચાર્યને બઢતી આપી સેક્રેટરી તરીકેનો કાર્યભાર સોંપાતાં સૌએ તેમને વધાવ્યા હતા.

નવગુજરાત સમય

Sun, 02 June 2024

<https://epaper.navgt>



મુંદ્રાથી મોકલેલો માલ ખોટા દસ્તાવેજથી છોડાવ્યો ઊંઝાના વેપારી સાથે દુબઈની કંપનીની 1.40 કરોડની ઠગાઈ કંપનીના માલિક, મેનેજર સહિત 5 સામે ફરિયાદ

ભારતર ન્યૂઝ | મહેસાણા

ભારતના અન્ય રાજ્યો અને દુબઈ સહિતના દેશોમાં જીરાનો વેપાર કરતી ઊંઝા ગંજબજારની કંપનીને 56 મેટ્રિક ટન જીરાનો ઓર્ડર આપી દરિયાઈ માર્ગે શિપિંગ કંપની મારફતે જીરાનો માલ ઉતારી તેના નાણાં નહીં ચૂકવી રૂ.1.40 કરોડની છેતરપિંડી મામલે તાજ અલ ઈમાન ફુડસ્ટફ એલએલસી નામની કંપનીના મેનેજર મેનેજર સહિત પાંચ શખ્સો સામે ઊંઝા પોલીસે

ગુનો નોંધી તપાસ હાથ ધરી છે.

જીરાનો માલ દુબઈની કંપનીએ અસલ ડોક્યુમેન્ટો સંપૂર્ણ પેમેન્ટ કરી દુબઈની બેંકમાંથી મેળવી જેબલ અલી પોર્ટ ઉપરથી મેળવી લેવાનો હતો. પરંતુ 15 દિવસ પછી કોઈ પેમેન્ટ ન મળતાં તેમની ઊંઝા ખાતેની બેંકમાં તપાસ કરતાં તેમને જાણવા મળ્યું હતું કે દુબઈની કંપની ઓરીજનલ ડોક્યુમેન્ટ લેવા આવી નથી. આ મામલે કંપનીના માલિક અને મેનેજર સહિત પાંચ સામે ફરિયાદ નોંધાઈ છે.

વાણિજ્ય મંત્રાલય સમક્ષ બિન વેપારી મુદ્દાઓ માટે એક અલાયદી વ્યવસ્થા માટે નિકાસકારોની માગણી

નવી દિલ્હી: સ્થાનિક નિકાસકારોએ તાજેતરમાં વાણિજ્ય મંત્રાલયને વિવિધ દેશો દ્વારા ઊભા કરવામાં આવેલા વેપાર સિવાયનાં અવરોધક મુદ્દાઓ જેની માઠી અસર આઉટબાઉન્ડ શિપમેન્ટ પર થતી હોય છે તેના ઉકેલ માટે એક સમર્પિત વિભાગની વ્યવસ્થા કરવાનું સૂચન કર્યું હતું.

વધુમાં તેઓએ ઈન્ટરેસ્ટ ઈક્વિલાઈઝેશન સ્કીમનાં વિસ્તરણની અને સ્કીમ હેઠળના દરને વધારવા માટે પણ મંત્રાલયને અનુરોધ કર્યો છે. વાણિજ્ય અને ઉદ્યોગ ખાતાના પ્રધાન પીયૂષ ગોયલનાં વડપણ હેઠળ યોજાયેલી બેઠકમાં આ ઉપરાંત અન્ય મુદ્દાઓ અંગે પણ ચર્ચા કરવામાં આવી હતી.

નિકાસ વેપારમાં વધી રહેલા બિન વેપારી અંતરાયો અથવા તો નોન ટ્રેડ બેરિયરના મુદ્દાઓ અંગે ચર્ચા કરવામાં આવી હતી અને તે માટે એક અલાયદી વિભાગ હોવો જોઈએ જેથી તેનાં પર વિશેષ ધ્યાન આપી શકાય અને તેનો ઉકેલ આવે, એમ ફેડરેશન ઑફ ઈન્ડિયન એક્સપોર્ટ ઓર્ગેનાઈઝેશનના ડિરેક્ટર જનરલ અજય સહાયે જણાવ્યું હતું.

અન્ય એક નિકાસકારે જણાવ્યું હતું કે ભારતને બાયપાસ

કરતી કેટલીક શિપિંગ લાઈનના મુદ્દા ઉપરાંત અંતરિયાળ વિસ્તારોમાં કન્ટેનરની ઉપલબ્ધતા ઉપરાંત બંદરો પર ઝડપી ટર્નઓરાઉન્ડ ટાઈમ અને સ્થાનિક ખેલાડીઓ માટે વધુ બજાર એક્સેસ કરવા માટેનાં મુક્ત વેપાર કરાર જેવી બાબતોની ચર્ચા કરવામાં આવી હતી.

આ બેઠકમાં પીએચડીસીસીઆઈ, સીઆઈઆઈ અને ફિક્કિ સહિતનાં ઔદ્યોગિક ચેમ્બરના પ્રતિનિધિઓએ હાજરી આપી હતી. આ ઉપરાંત લેધર, એન્જિનિયરિંગ, ઈલેક્ટ્રોનિક્સ, જેમ્સ અને જ્વેલરી અને ફિઓ સહિતનાં વિવિધ નિકાસ પ્રમોશન કાઉન્સિલના અધિકારીઓએ પણ બેઠકમાં ઉપસ્થિત રહ્યા હતા. વધુમાં બેઠક દરમિયાન ડિરેક્ટોરેટ જનરલ ઑફ ફોરેન ટ્રેડ અને ઈન્વેસ્ટ ઈન્ડિયાએ પણ ભારતીય નિકાસ અને આયાત સંદર્ભે તેમનું પ્રેઝન્ટેશન આપ્યું હતું. પ્રાપ્ત સરકારી આંકડાકીય માહિતી અનુસાર ગત મે મહિનામાં દેશની વેપાર ખાધ વધીને સાત મહિનાની ઊંચી ૨૩.૭૮ અબજ ડોલરની સપાટીએ રહી હોવા છતાં મર્કન્ટાઈઝ નિકાસ ૯.૧ ટકા વધીને ૩૮.૧૩ અબજ ડોલરના સ્તરે રહી હતી.

IMPORT REJECTIONS IN SPICES FROM EU AND USA

MAY 2024

(Report extracted for rejection from India’s export)

RASFF Import Rejection (in Spices)- May 2024

Total Rejections	42
Most no: import rejections reported from	India (15)
Spice with the highest number of rejections	Chilli (8), Spice Mixes(8), Cumin(6)
Reason for the most no: of rejections	Pesticide residues (15)

USFDA Import Refusal (in Spices)- May 2024

Total Rejections: 31

Most of import rejections reported from India (14)

Spices with highest number of rejections: Mixed spices and seasonings (13)

Reason for the most no: of rejections Presence of Salmonella (17)

RASFF Alerts

Sl. No	Commodity	Origin	Reason for Rejection
6	Cardamom	India	Improper official certificate
7	Chili powder	India	Ethylene Oxide (0.12 mg/kg)
8	Chicken massala spices	India	2-chloroethanol - 11.0 mg/kg, Ethylene Oxide-6.0 mg/kg
9	Spice mixture (masala)	India	Ethylene oxide- 2,8+/-1,4 mg/kg
10	Chilli powder	India	Aflatoxin B1- 12 µg/kg
11	Curry	India	Presence of Griseofulvin - 0.01 mg/kg
12	Black pepper powder	India	Contaminated with pahs
13	Cardamom		Pesticide residues: Chlorpyrifos - 0,095 ± 0,048 mg/kg, Bifenthrin- 0,55 ± 0,28 mg/kg, Quinalphos- 0,46 ± 0,23 mg/kg, Carbendazim - 0,42 ± 0,21 mg/kg, Tebuconazole- 0,40 ± 0,20 mg/kg, Acetamiprid- 0,40 ± 0,20 mg/kg, Imidacloprid- 0,17 ± 0,090 mg/kg, Thiamethoxam- 0,17 ± 0,090 mg/kg, Fipronil - 0,041 ± 0,021 mg/kg
14	Cumin seeds	India	Multiple pesticides residues: Acetamiprid- 1.5 ± 0.75 mg/kg, Azoxystrobin-0.80 ± 0.40 mg/kg, Carbendazim-0.22 ± 0.11 mg/kg, Carbofuran-0.26 ± 0.13 mg/kg, Chlorpyrifos-0.19 ± 0.095 mg/kg, Clothianidin-0.86 ± 0.43 mg/kg, Kresoxim-methyl- 0.32 ± 0.16 mg/kg, Metalaxyl- 0.13 ± 0.065 mg/kg, Picoxystrobin- 0.74 ± 0.37 mg/kg, Thiamethoxam- 0.76 ± 0.38 mg/kg

Theme of the year “Creating synergy between Farmers, Traders and Govt”

15	Ground cumin	India	Multiple pesticide residues: Chlorpyrifos - 0.065 ± 0.033 mg/kg – ppm, Acetamiprid - 0.47 ± 0.24 mg/kg – ppm, Clothianidin - 0.56 ± 0.28 mg/kg – ppm, Imidacloprid - 0.15 ± 0.08 mg/kg – ppm, Thiamethoxam - 0.68 ± 0.34 mg/kg – ppm, Tricyclazole - 0.37 ± 0.19 mg/kg – ppm, Carbendazim - 0.39 ± 0.20 mg/kg - ppm
16	Cumin	India	Exceedance of mrls for pesticide residues: Acetamiprid- 1,9 ± 1,0 mg/kg, Azoxystrobin- 0,83 ± 0,42 mg/kg, Chlorpyrifos- 0,047 ± 0,024 mg/kg, Dinotefuran- 0,054 ± 0,027 mg/kg, Fipronil - 0,025 ± 0,013 mg/kg, Hexaconazole - 0,21 ± 0,11 mg/kg, Clothianidin- 0,15 ± 0,08 mg/kg, Picoxystrobin - 0,21 ± 0,11 mg/kg, Thiamethoxam- 0,66 ± 0,33 mg/kg, Tolfenpyrad- 0,36 ± 0,18 mg/kg
17	Ground cumin	India	Multiple pesticide residues: Chlorpyrifos- 0.065 ± 0.033 mg/kg, Acetamiprid- 0.47 ± 0.24 mg/kg, Clothianidin- 0.56 ± 0.28 mg/kg, Imidacloprid- 0.15 ± 0.08 mg/kg, Thiamethoxam- 0.68 ± 0.34 mg/kg, Tricyclazole - 0.37 ± 0.19 mg/kg, Carbendazim- 0.39 ± 0.20 mg/kg
18	Cumin seeds	India	Clopirifos-etile 0,034+/- 0,017 mg/kg
19	Fennel seed powder	India	Contaminated with Chlorpyrifos- 0.11 mg/kg, Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbonso.073 mg/kg
20	Dried fenugreek leaves	India	Chlorpyrifos-0,040 +/- 0,020 mg/kg

USFDA Alerts

Sl. No:	Product	Origin	Reason for Rejection	FDA Sample Analysis
			(NDA).	
5	Asafoetida, Natural Extract Or Flavor (Spice)	India	It appears to bear or contain an unsafe food additive within the meaning of section 409.	No
6	Capsicums (Cayenne Chili, Hot Peppers), Ground, Cracked (Spice)	India	It appears to contain Salmonella, a poisonous and deleterious substance which may render it injurious to health.	No
7	Capsicums (Cayenne Chili, Hot Peppers), Ground, Cracked (Spice)	India	It appears to contain Salmonella, a poisonous and deleterious substance which may render it injurious to health.	No

Theme of the year “Creating synergy between Farmers, Traders and Govt”

8	Coriander, Ground, Cracked (Spice)		Food is in package form and the label fails to bear the name and place of business of the manufacturer, packer, or distributor. The food is in package form and the label fails to bear an accurate statement of the quantity of the contents in terms of weight, measure, or numerical count. It appears to be misbranded in that the label or labeling fails to bear the required nutrition information. It appears to contain salmonella, a poisonous and deleterious substance which may render it injurious to health.	FDA Sample Analysis
9	Fenugreek, Whole (Spice)	India	It appears to contain Salmonella, a poisonous and deleterious substance which may render it injurious to health.	Private Lab Sample Analysis
10	Fenugreek, Whole (Spice)	India	It appears to contain Salmonella, a poisonous and deleterious substance which may render it injurious to health.	No
11	Pepper,Black, Whole (Spice)	India	It appears to contain Salmonella, a poisonous and deleterious substance which may render it injurious to health.	FDA Sample Analysis
12	Pepper,Black, Whole (Spice)	India	It appears to contain Salmonella, a poisonous and deleterious substance which may render it injurious to health. The article appears to consist in whole or in part of a filthy, putrid, or decomposed substance or be otherwise unfit for food.	No
13	Spices, Ground, Cracked, Etc., N.E.C.	India	It appears to contain Salmonella, a poisonous and deleterious substance which may render it injurious to health	Private Lab Sample Analysis

14	Mixed Spice And Seasonings, Ground, Cracked, Without Salt, N.E.C.	India	It appears to contain Salmonella, a poisonous and deleterious substance which may render it injurious to health.	No
15	Mixed Spice And Seasonings, Ground, Cracked, Without Salt, N.E.C.	India	It appears to contain Salmonella, a poisonous and deleterious substance which may render it injurious to health.	No
16	Curry Powder, Without Salt	India	The article appears in violation of FPLA because of its placement, form and/or contents statement. The food is in package form and the label fails to bear the name and place of business of the manufacturer, packer, or distributor. It appears to be misbranded in that the label or labeling fails to bear the required nutrition information.	No

17	Mixed Spice And Seasonings, Without Salt, N.E.C.		It is fabricated from two or more ingredients and the label fails to bear the common or usual name of each such ingredient and/or the article purports to be a beverage containing vegetable or fruit juice, but does not bear a statement with appropriate prominence on the information panel of the total percentage of such fruit or vegetable juice contained in the food.	No
18	Onion, Ground, Cracked (Spice)	India	The article appears in violation of FPLA because of its placement, form and/or contents statement. The food is in package form and the label fails to bear the name and place of business of the manufacturer, packer, or distributor. It appears to be misbranded in that the label or labeling fails to bear the required nutrition information.	No

Prepared by:

Sources:

<https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/importrefusals/>

<https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/rasff-window/portal/?event=SearchForm&cleanSearch=1>



WORLD SPICE ORGANISATION

LIST OF COUNCIL OF MINISTERS WITH (Sworn in on 09.06.2024)		
		PORTFOLIOS
	Shri Narendra Modi	Prime Minister and also in-charge of:
		Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions;
		Department of Atomic Energy; Department of Space;
		All important policy issues; and All other portfolios not allocated to any Minister.
	CABINET MINISTERS	
1	Shri Raj Nath Singh	Minister of Defence.
2	Shri Amit Shah	Minister of Home Affairs; and Minister of Cooperation.
3	Shri Nitin Jairam Gadkari	Minister of Road Transport and Highways.
4	Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda	Minister of Health and Family Welfare; and Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers.
5	Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan	Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare; and Minister of Rural Development.
6	Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman	Minister of Finance; and Minister of Corporate Affairs.
7	Dr. Subrahmanyam Jaishankar	Minister of External Affairs.
8	Shri Manohar Lal	Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs; and Minister of Power.
9	Shri H. D. Kumaraswamy	Minister of Heavy Industries; and Minister of Steel.
10	Shri Piyush Goyal	Minister of Commerce and Industry.
11	Shri Dharmendra Pradhan	Minister of Education.
12	Shri Jitan Ram Manjhi	Minister of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises.
13	Shri Rajiv Ranjan Singh alias Lalan Singh	Minister of Panchayati Raj; and Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying
14	Shri Sarbananda Sonowal	Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways.
15	Dr. Virendra Kumar	Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment.
16	Shri Kinjarapu Rammohan Naidu	Minister of Civil Aviation.
17	Shri Pralhad Joshi	Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public and Distribution & Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
18	Shri Jual Oram	Minister of Tribal Affairs.
19	Shri Giriraj Singh	Minister of Textiles.
20	Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw	Minister of Railways; Minister of Information and Broadcasting; and Minister of Electronics and Information Technology.
21	Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia	Minister of Communications; and Minister of Development of North Eastern Region
22	Shri Bhupender Yadav	Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
23	Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat	Minister of Culture; and Minister of Tourism.
24	Smt. Annpurna Devi	Minister of Women and Child Development
25	Shri Kiren Rijju	Minister of Parliamentary Affairs; and Minister of Minority Affairs.
26	Shri Hardeep Singh Puri	Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas
27	Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya	Minister of Labour and Employment; and Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports.
28	Shri G. Kishan Reddy	Minister of Coal; and Minister of Mines.
29	Shri Chirag Paswan	Minister of Food Processing Industries.
30	Shri C R Patil	Minister of Jal Shakti.
	MINISTERS OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)	

1	Shri Rao Inderjit Singh	Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation;
		Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Planning; and Minister of State in the Ministry of Culture.
2	Dr. Jitendra Singh	Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Science and Technology;
		Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Earth Sciences;
		Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office;
		Minister of State in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions;
		Minister of State in the Department of Atomic Energy; and Minister of State in the Department of Space.
3	Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal	Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Law and Justice; and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs.
4	Shri Jadhav Prataprao Ganpatrao	Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Ayush; and Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
5	Shri Jayant Chaudhary	Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship; and Minister of State in the Ministry of Education.
	MINISTERS OF STATE	
1	Shri Jitin Prasada	Minister of State in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry; and Minister of State in the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.
2	Shri Shripad Yesso Naik	Minister of State in the Ministry of Power; and Minister of State in the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy.
3	Shri Pankaj Chaudhary	Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance.
4	Shri Krishan Pal	Minister of State in the Ministry of Cooperation.
5	Shri Ramdas Athawale	Minister of State in the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.
6	Shri Ram Nath Thakur	Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.
7	Shri Nityanand Rai	Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs.
8	Smt. Anupriya Patel	Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare; and Minister of State in the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers.
9	Shri V. Somanna	Minister of State in the Ministry of Jal Shakti; and Minister of State in the Ministry of Railways.
10	Dr. Chandra Sekhar Pemmasani	Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Development; and Minister of State in the Ministry of Communications.
11	Prof. S. P. Singh Baghel	Minister of State in the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying; and Minister of State in the Ministry of Panchayati Raj.
12	Sushri Sobha Karandlaje	Minister of State in the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises; and Minister of State in the Ministry of Labour and Employment.
13	Shri Kirtivardhan Singh	Minister of State in the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change; and Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs.
14	Shri B. L. Verma	Minister of State in the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution; and Minister of State in the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.
15	Shri Shantanu Thakur	Minister of State in the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways.

16	Shri Suresh Gopi	Minister of State in the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas; and Minister of State in the Ministry of Tourism.
17	Dr. L. Murugan	Minister of State in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting; and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs.
18	Shri Ajay Tamta	Minister of State in the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways.
19	Shri Bandi Sanjay Kumar	Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs.
20	Shri Kamlesh Paswan	Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Development.
21	Shri Bhagirath Choudhary	Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.
22	Shri Satish Chandra Dubey	Minister of State in the Ministry of Coal; and Minister of State in the Ministry of Mines.
23	Shri Sanjay Seth	Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence.
24	Shri Ravneet Singh	Minister of State in the Ministry of Food Processing Industries; and Minister of State in the Ministry of Railways.
25	Shri Durgadas Uikey	Minister of State in the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.
26	Smt. Raksha Nikhil Khadse	Minister of State in the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.
27	Shri Sukanta Majumdar	Minister of State in the Ministry of Education; and Minister of State in the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region.
28	Smt. Savitri Thakur	Minister of State in the Ministry of Women and Child Development.
29	Shri Tokhan Sahu	Minister of State in the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.
30	Shri Raj Bhushan Choudhary	Minister of State in the Ministry of Jal Shakti.
31	Shri Bhupathi Raju Srinivasa Varma	Minister of State in the Ministry of Heavy Industries; and Minister of State in the Ministry of Steel.
32	Shri Harsh Malhotra	Minister of State in the Ministry of Corporate Affairs; and Minister of State in the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways.
33	Smt. Nimuben Jayantibhai Bambhaniya	Minister of State in the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution.
34	Shri Murlidhar Mohol	Minister of State in the Ministry of Cooperation; and Minister of State in the Ministry of Civil Aviation.
35	Shri George Kurian	Minister of State in the Ministry of Minority Affairs; and Minister of State in the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying.
36	Shri Pabitra Margherita	Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs; and Minister of State in the Ministry of Textiles.

Rainy Season Precautions to Stay Safe in this Monsoon

1. Drink clean and boiled water

Water sources can get contaminated during the monsoon and this increases the chance of contracting waterborne diseases. Stomach issues and fever are some of the most common health woes during this season. It is necessary to have a water filter at home or one can also traditionally boil water daily for consumption. It is also recommended to carry drinking water whenever you travel or to only buy sealed and packaged water when necessary.

2. Avoid street food and junk food

Many hawkers sell popular street food and freshly cut fruits that are stored in the open. It is best to avoid such foods as they are kept in the open and are vulnerable to harmful microorganisms. The longer these foods are exposed to the open air the higher the chances of contracting infections if consumed.

3. Avoid stagnant water around the house

Breeding of mosquitoes is one of the most dangerous issues during the monsoon season. Open water storage at home and water puddles that are stagnating around the house are breeding grounds for such insects. You must always ensure that drinking water is covered in pots and vessels or bottles. Also, make sure that the drains in the locality are not clogged and remove any visible sources of stagnant water.

4. Wash fruits and vegetables carefully

It is imperative to scrub fruits and vegetables that have been bought from the market under running water. There are different types of germs that thrive on the skins of fruits and vegetables and it is best to avoid eating raw cut salads from street vendors during the monsoons. It is advisable to opt for clean and freshly cooked home food during the rains.

5. Get your proper sleep

Late working hours or unhealthy sleeping habits tend to disrupt your immunity and can increase the chances of contracting flu and cold-like symptoms during the monsoons. It is recommended to clock in 6 to 8 hours of sleep every night to help boost your immunity and stay healthy during this season.

6. Follow an exercise regimen

Even though activities such as walking, skipping, yoga, cycling or running can be hampered during the monsoon don't let this season dampen your exercise routine. While exercising not only helps you stay in shape, it also maintains your immunity, improves blood circulation and fortifies your body against viruses and bacteria.

7. Wash your hands

It is important to wash and sanitise your hands before every meal especially when you come home from outside. Practice good hand hygiene especially during the monsoon to ensure the skin of your hands is clean while consuming food. This is necessary because harmful germs tend to multiply at a faster rate during the monsoon.

8. Avoid getting wet in the rain too often

This is easier said than done, living in a city like Mumbai can force you to get stuck in heavy rain spells almost every alternate day. It is advisable to keep an umbrella or a raincoat readily available if you're heading out to help protect you from getting thoroughly wet and falling ill.

It only requires a little effort on your part to ensure you stay fit and healthy during the monsoon while enjoying the beauty of this season to its fullest.

FEDERATION OF INDIAN SPICE STAKEHOLDERS

Regd. office; 504, APMC Building, Market Yard, Unjha–384170, (North Gujarat)

Phone: +91 75750 12424, 9833320999;E-mail: admin@fissh.org, dg@fissh.org

Membership renewal form

Pan No: AADCF0181D

GST No: 24AADCF0181D1Z8

Name of the person (Please attach latest passport size photo)	
Designation	
Name of the company	
Federation Registration No	
Status: Individual /Proprietorship / Partnership / LLP /Pvt. Ltd / Public Limited/ HUF/ Others	
Registered office address	
Phone No	Fax No
Cell No	WhatsApp No:
Email id	Website
Nature of business (Please mention Farmer /Traders / Processor / Manufacturer / Importer / Exporter / Agent / Broker / Service provider	
Name of the products / service offered.	
Country of Export	
PAN card of the Organisation (Attach a copy if not already submitted)	
Spice Board Registration No & Validity period	
Member of any other Association / Business Chambers / Federation	
Membership fee Rs 9000/- for 3 years (For 2024, 2025 & 2026 upto 31.12.2026) +18%GST (Rs 1620) = Total 10,620/-	
Cheque / DD /UTR No.	
Please draw Cheque / DD for Rs 10,620/- (Rupees ten thousand six hundred and twenty only) in Fa- vour of “Federation of Indian Spice Stakeholders” (Cheque/DD Subject to realization)	
Bank Electronic transfer through RTGS : A/c NAME : FEDERATION OF INDIAN SPICE STAKEHOLDERS Current A/c No: 01570200001082. NEFT: BARB0(zero) UNJHAX. : BANK OF BARODA, UNJHA	
I agree to follow all the rules and regulations of the FEDERATION OF INDIAN SPICE STAKEHOLDERS	
Place	Date
Signature	Company’s Stamp
For Official use only	
Approved by	Membership Registration No
Validity of Membership period	Entry made in Membership register



FEDERATION OF INDIAN SPICE STAKEHOLDERS

Regd. office; 504, APMC Building, Market Yard, Unjha–384170, (North Gujarat)

Phone: +91 75750 12424, 9833320999; E-mail: admin@fissh.org, dg@fissh.org

New Membership Registration Form

Pan No: AADCF0181D

GST No: 24AADCF0181D1Z8

Name of the person (Please attach latest passport size photo)	
Designation	
Name of the company	
Status: Individual /Proprietorship / Partnership / LLP /Pvt. Ltd / Public Limited/ HUF/ Others	
Registered office address	
Phone No	Fax No
Cell No	WhatsApp No:
Email id	Website
Nature of business (Please mention Farmer /Traders / Processor / Manufacturer / Importer / Exporter / Agent / Broker / Service provider, Others	
Name of the products / service offered.	
Country of Export	
Country of Import	
GST No of the Organisation (Attach a copy)	
PAN card of the Organisation (Attach a copy)	
Spice Board Registration No & Validity period	
Member of any other Association / Business Chambers / Federation	
Membership fee Rs 9000/- for three years (For 2024, 2025 & 2026 upto 31.12.2026) + One-time Entry / Admission fee Rs 3000/- +18% GST (Rs 2160) = Total Rs 14160/-	
Cheque / DD /UTR No.	
Please draw Cheque / DD for Rs 14160/- (Rupees fourteen thousand one hundred sixty only) in Favour of “Federation of Indian Spice Stakeholders” (Cheque/DD Subject to realization)	
Bank Electronic transfer through RTGS: A/c NAME: FEDERATION OF INDIAN SPICE STAKEHOLDERS Current A/c No: 01570200001082. NEFT: BARBo(zero)UNJHAX.: BANK OF BARODA, UNJHA	
I agree to follow all the rules and regulations of the FEDERATION OF INDIAN SPICE STAKEHOLDERS	
Place	Date
Signature	Company’s Stamp
For Official use only	
Approved by	Membership Registration No
Validity of Membership period	Entry made in Membership register



ABOUT US

Federation of Indian Spice Stakeholders commonly known as FISS in the agro-trade in India and abroad is a Pan India association of prominent stakeholders of the Spice trade viz Farmers, Traders, Processors, Manufacturers and Exporters with an aim to bring them under one platform for creating a viable Eco-system for a sustainable growth and development of the spice trade.

FISS Head office is situated in Unjha Gujarat which has one of the biggest APMC in the country, well known commercial centre throughout India for its trade of Jeera (Cumin), Variali (Fennel Seeds), Isabgol (Psyllium Husk), Raido (Mustard Seeds), Dhaniya (Coriander), Methi (Fenugreek) among other spices.

The Trustees, office bearers & the Board of Directors of FISS consist of eminent leaders from the Spice Industry who work relentlessly to resolve the issues faced by the trade and represent the trade at appropriate levels.

India is predominantly an agrarian economy; the majority of the country's population depends on agriculture for their livelihood and this sector contributes roughly 14% of the country's total GDP.

FISS is one of its kind in the country and works as a catalyst between farmers and Industry.

As a part of our social responsibility, Federation imparts training to Agricultural University students by involving them in the crop survey and impart practical training as these young minds are the future of the country in sustainable growth, development of the agro-sector and building up food security.

Annual Crop Survey of Seed Spices Viz Coriander, Cumin, Fennel and Fenugreek

The Federation undertakes physical and scientific crop surveys during January and February for the last many years of seed spices. The students of Dantiwada Agri University are engaged to tour the various seed spices growing area for surveying the crops under the guidance of the Federation members, faculty, agriculture experts, farmers and compiling the crop survey report which are presented at the Annual Spice Trade meet. The Federation crop survey report is released in the Annual Spice meet held in the month of March every year. Our reports are referred to by the Spice Trade and Ministry for its near accuracy.

Crop Survey 2024 was supported by Directorate of Arecanut and Spices Development, Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India

Annual Spice Trade Meet – The most coveted and flagship event of the Federation

Federation has been successfully organising Annual Spice trade meet and Mid-Term meet during the last several years at Mumbai, Ahmedabad, Jaipur, Jodhpur, Udaipur, Neemuch and other places. During the annual meet the Crop survey report is revealed and during Mid-term meet review is undertaken to analyze the crop harvested in relation to the crop production estimated.

Interactive Panel discussion are conducted on the major seed spices i.e. Cumin seed, Coriander, Fennel seed and Fenugreek. Veterans and experts from the spice trade are invited as panellists to share their views on the topics moderated by experts from Zee Business, CNBC Awaaz, Times Group, Commodity World and others.

The discussion and deliberation at the panel are focused on Seed spices - Area of cultivation, Yield, Production, effect of climatic changes, Domestic and International consumption and demand pattern, Market Volatility, Stock availability, Effect on usage of pesticides, Organic farming, Crop rotation and Farmers welfare.

Stakeholders from the Spice trade eco-system consisting of farmers, traders, processors, manufacturers, exporters, brokers, agents and others from across India attend this event in large numbers to learn about the sowing, weather conditions, rainfall, crops yield, carried forward stocks, crops from other origin, demand and supply dynamics, future trends of consumption in domestic and international market, etc which are revealed helping them to strategize their business based on the crop survey report accompanied by networking and B2B opportunities amongst the who's who from the Spice and Agro trade.

Awarding Spice trade top performers for Domestic and Exports, farmers, young achievers, startups, Life time achievers

Theme of the year “Creating synergy between Farmers, Traders and Govt”

During Annual meet FISS award and recognise the top performers in Domestic and Exports trade, Young Achievers and start-ups, Felicitates veterans and stalwarts from the Spice trade with Life time Achievement award and Farmers for best agriculture practice, promoting cultivation of organic & Integrated Pest management (IPM) crops, etc

International Trade Meet in Dubai, UAE

Federation organised its first International Trade meet consisting of conference and gala dinner attended by 200+ delegates on 17th February 2024 at Dubai, UAE on the eve of the Gulf Food exhibition held from 19th to 24th February 2024. Federation provided a platform to explore new business opportunities, network with industry leaders from India & abroad, Foreign buyers, importers and help stay updated of the current and future trends. Federation plan to have several more such International trade meet in future for enhancing the spice export from India.

Federation esteemed members have a significant contribution to the exports of spices and spice products from India which was close to US\$ 4 BN during 2022-23.

The theme of the Federation for the year is “**Creating synergy between Farmers, Traders and Govt**”

Federation is led by Mr. Ashwin Nayak, Chairman, Mr. U Karthik, Co-Chairman and Mr. Tejus Gandhi, Honorary Secretary supported by the dynamic Board of Directors and Trustees representing the various facet from the Spice Trade across India.

Federation is happy to announce that the prestigious Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry has partnered with Federation and have offered their complimentary membership to those who renew or register New membership of Federation up to 31.12.2023 giving them an opportunity to avail access to GCCI influential Network, super-charge business connect, stay informed about the industry trends and seize collaboration opportunities

Federation Newsletter ‘The Spice Aroma’ containing Domestic and International news of importance to the Spice trade is being send to our members, Govt Departments/ agencies, Indian & Foreign embassy among others for creating a wider presence of the Federation. ‘The Spice Aroma’ has attractive advertisement opportunities for members to promote their company and products.

Members are requested to renew their membership and continue enjoying the membership benefits offered by FISS and strengthen its collective power to make its voice heard at the corridor of power. Those who have already renewed may kindly ignore this message.

REVISED MEMBERSHIP FEE

- Membership fee is revised to Rs 9000/- + 18% GST for 3 years (For 2024, 2025 & 2026 upto 31.12.2026)
- New members enrolment Entry /admission fee Rs 3000/- +Membership fee Rs 9000/- for 3 years +18%GST

We look forward for your comments, feedback, suggestions and articles / writeups related to Spices and Spices products which could be of interest to the Spice trade to be published in the forthcoming issues

“A dream does not become reality through magic; it takes sweat, determination and hard work”

Thanks for sharing your valuable time

Contact us

For further information,

**फेडरेशन ऑफ इंडियन स्पाइस स्टेकहोल्डर्स Feder-
ation of Indian Spice Stakeholders,**

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