

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 832
ANSWERED ON 07/02/2024

TESTING LABs

832. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN:

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to strengthen the testing labs established by the organisations under the control of Ministry of Commerce and Industry and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to promote the activities of the Cashew Export Promotion Council of India and if so, the details of action taken thereon;
- (c) whether the Ministry of Commerce and Industry received the recommendation from FSSAI for giving financial assistance to strengthening the food testing labs managed by the Cashew Export Promotion Council of India;
- (d) if so, the details of action taken thereon;
- (e) whether the Ministry of Commerce and Industry has examined the matter and if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) whether the Ministry has given reply to the FSSAI and BIS in this regard and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती अनुप्रिया पटेल)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

(a) The testing labs established by the organisations under the control of Ministry of Commerce and Industry are regularly strengthened depending on the requirements of the importing countries, through measures including up-gradation of infrastructure, technology, methodologies of testing, and training of laboratory personnel to ensure that the testing facilities are in line with international standards.

Further, the Agricultural & Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) provides financial assistance to its authorized laboratories for up-gradation and strengthening of laboratory infrastructure for export certification.

(b) Cashew nuts and its products have been classified as “Scheduled Products” under the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) Act, 1986, vide notification of the Government of India dated 29.07.2022. APEDA is, therefore, working for the promotion and development of the exports of Cashew nuts and its products

(c) to (f) Department of Commerce’s comments in this regard, clarifying that the Cashew Export Promotion Council of India is no longer affiliated with the Department of Commerce, have been sent to FSSAI.
