

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 754
ANSWERED ON 07/02/2024

IRRADIATING OF INDIAN EXPORTS FOOD PRODUCTS

754. DR. T. R. PAARIVENDHAR:

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

- (a) whether it is true that our Indian exporters are irradiating their food products including various fruits at US ports which is mandatory for prevention of harmful insects and diseases in fruits and leads to inordinate delay in delivery and increase the cost burden on Indian exporters even though such facilities are available in various parts of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government will take necessary steps to take up the matter with US Government to allow/permit indigenous labs to carry out irradiation of certain fruits instead of in US Ports;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

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) to (e) The fruits destined for export to USA are irradiated in Indian irradiation facilities. The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has approved four Indian Irradiation facilities for irradiation treatment. As per the pre-clearance programme agreed between India and USA, the USDA Inspector conducts the inspection of fruits destined for export to USA in the approved facilities. The fruits are irradiated and inspected in India, in presence of USDA and India's Plant Quarantine Inspectors, and then are exported to USA.
