

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:830
ANSWERED ON:27.02.2015
QUALITY OF SPICES
Chowdhary Shri Pankaj

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to formulate a national policy for improving the quality of Indian spices to meet the International standards;
- (b) if so, the details and the salient features thereof; and
- (c) the other measures taken by the Government to improve the quality of Indian spices?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a) & (b): Presently, there is no such proposal.

(c): Spices Board implements various export promotion schemes such as technology and process upgradation, setting up/upgradation of in-house quality controls, quality certification and training of laboratory personnel, providing assistance to the farmers for the post-harvest quality improvement through various quality improvement programs and imparting training to the farmers in Good Agriculture Practices for producing quality spices. The Spices Board has established 6 state of the art Quality Evaluation Laboratories in almost all the major port cities viz. Mumbai, Chennai, Cochin, Tuticorin, New Delhi and Guntur to evaluate the quality of spices exported from the country.

The Laboratory provides analytical services to the Indian Spice Industry and also undertakes analysis of consignment samples under the mandatory inspection of Spices Board. Codex Alimentarius Commission has formed an exclusive Codex Committee on Spices and Culinary Herbs (CCSCH) with India as Chair. The Secretariat of the CCSCH is now functioning in Spices Board to elaborate worldwide standards for spices and culinary herbs in their dried and dehydrated state in whole, ground, and cracked or crushed form.