

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4402

ANSWERED ON:19.12.2014

PROHIBITION BAN ON IMPORT OF FRUITS / VEGETABLES BY EU

Galla Shri Jayadev

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

- (a) whether a delegation of Food and Veterinary office of European Union (EU) has recently visited the country to verify improvement in plants health controls and certification system to fruits and vegetables;
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating the discussions held with the Government in the matter;
- (c) the progress made in regard to lifting of prohibition/ban on import of fruits and vegetables from India along with the present status thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has also devised any mechanism to test the quality of these products before their export; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

a. Yes Madam.

b. An Audit Team of Food & Veterinary Office (FVO), European Union (EU) to evaluate the system of official controls in India for export of plants and plant products to the European Union visited Regional Plant Quarantine Stations (RPQS), Mumbai, Air Cargo Complexes, New Delhi, Bangalore, Mumbai and Cochin besides pack houses at Mumbai, Bangalore, Cochin & Ludhiana during 2nd to 12th Sept., 2014.

c. The audit team has submitted its report to EU indicating satisfaction over the status of facilities visited and has acknowledged the improvement in the system of official controls of the export of plants and plant products to the EU.

d. Yes Madam.

e. A Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) has been developed for pest free export of fresh fruits and vegetables to EU and implemented w.e.f. 1st April, 2014 wherein the fruits and vegetables are processed in pack houses approved by Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) under the supervision of Plant Quarantine before export to EU. A dedicated passage for such certified fruits and vegetables have also been developed at Air Cargo Complexes.