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Title: Need to reconsider the decision of lifting the scanning of food product imports from Japan in order to save the life of common man.

SHRI T.G. VENKATESH BABU (CHENNAI NORTH): Sir, recently the Union Government has decided to discontinue the scanning of food products from Japan as they run the risk of being contaminated by radioactive substance.

Even after five years of the Fukushima nuclear disaster in 2011, reports indicate that food products from Japan carry the risk of radioactive contamination that leads to various forms of cancer. Various countries like US, Germany, Turkey, Russia, are still following a strict mechanism to keep a check on Japanese food products. There are also strict checks on radiation for vessels and containers from Japan but the Indian Government feels otherwise. In March, 2015, radiation was found in the sample of green tea imported from Japan to the US. In a study by the US, it was stated that freshwater fish and ocean bottom dwellers around Fukushima are at a higher risk of radioactive contamination compared to most other types of ocean fish in the same area.

HON. CHAIRPERSON : Please conclude.

SHRI T.G. VENKATESH BABU: Sir, you have not even given a single minute time. Please give me some time.

The Imports Division of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) under the Ministry of Health has recently issued an order saying that the advisory dated 15.03.2011 issued regarding monitoring of food articles imported from Japan for radioactive contamination issued earlier as a temporary measure in 2011, is hereby withdrawn.

The abrupt end to the practice has, however, alarmed the experts. The Indian Government should not have stopped the screening because the kind of nuclear disaster that happened in Japan can still have its effects. As the cancer scenario in the country is quite alarming over the years, I urge upon the Union Government to reconsider the decision of lifting the scanning of food product imports from Japan in order to save the life of common man. Thank you, Sir.

**माननीय सभापति :**

डॉ. मनोज राजोरिया और

कुँवर पुष्पेन्द्र सिंह चन्देल के श्री टी.जी.वेंकटेश बाबू द्वारा उठाए गए विषय के साथ संबद्ध करने की अनुमति प्रदान की जाती है।