GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-1924

ANSWERED ON-02.08.2017

Adulteration in food articles imported from China

1924. Smt. Chhaya Verma

Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad

Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav

(a) whether food articles like rice, salt, sugar and Chinese manjha are being imported from China;
(b) if so, whether the Ministry is aware of adulteration of plastic in rice, salt and sugar imported from China which is very harmful for human consumption; and
(c) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) : While rice import from China was nil last year, sugar import was less than 0.01% of our total import of sugar last year. Salt import from China is in the range of 20-25% of our total import of salt.

No specific Exim Code for Chinese Manjha exists under Indian Trade Classification (Harmonised System), 2017; hence, import data and other related information regarding Chinese Manjha are not available. Chinese Manza is a loose description given to kite threads made of nylon. Import data on plastic/synthetic thread shows that it is imported under four different Chapter Heads: Chapter 39, 54, 55 & 56 of Indian Trade Classification [Harmonised System] 2017. In addition, as kite flying kit (toy) containing such thread, it may find entry under Chapter 95 of ITC(HS. These are also produced domestically apart from being imported including from China.

(b) & (c): No specific case of presence of plastic in rice, salt and sugar imported from China has been detected in the country. However, under the provisions of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986, one can approach Consumer Forum for redressal in case of defective products and deficiency in service.

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