



**SPICES BOARD**  
(Ministry of Commerce and Industry  
Government of India)  
Sugandha Bhavan  
N.H. By-pass  
P.B. No. 2277  
Palarivattom P.O.  
Cochin - 682 025, India

**स्पाइसेस बोर्ड**  
(वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय,  
भारत सरकार)  
सुगन्ध भवन  
एन. एच. बाइपास  
पी. बी. नं. 2277  
पालारिवट्टम पी.ओ.  
कोचिन - 682 025, भारत

Circular No.14/2020

Dated: 21<sup>st</sup> September, 2020

**C I R C U L A R**

Sub: Mandatory Sampling & Testing of export consignments of Spices and Spice products under the Quality Evaluation System of Spices Board during the COVID-19 situation – reg

Ref: Circular No.SRD-SS/03/0002/2019 dated 26<sup>th</sup> March 2020

-----

Spices Board, as part of the Quality Evaluation System for exports, has been undertaking mandatory testing of export consignments of select spices to select destinations, in line with the import requirements and regulations of the particular country/region. The Board's testing ensured that the export consignments of spices conform to the applicable standards and reduced the instances of export rejection, thereby boosting the exports of spices and spice products from India. Meanwhile, as a precautionary measure to COVID-19 pandemic, a temporary exemption was granted, vide Circular No: SRD-SS/03/0002/2019 dated 26<sup>th</sup> March, 2020 for mandatory testing of spices during the lock down period.

Further, with a view to promote exports of quality and safe spices and to facilitate ease of doing business, the Board reviewed and streamlined the quality evaluation system for exports of spices and spice products. Accordingly, necessary changes have been incorporated in the Export Support System (ESS) online portal, so as to provide undisrupted quality evaluation services even during the unforeseen situations that might arise out of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Also, export consignments of Ready to Eat (RTE) products in dried form, such as namkeens, snacks, pappads etc., are exempted from the requirement of mandatory testing by Spices Board. However, in the case of exports to the European Union, RTE products which have a spice content of more than 20%, shall require a Health Certificate, for which testing is a pre requisite.

Further, the temporary exemption for mandatory testing of spices during the lock down period has been reviewed and the mandatory sampling and testing of spices for exports have been resumed in a phased manner, taking into consideration the COVID-19 situation. The list of spices and spice products (destination wise), which have to undergo quality evaluation / clearance by Spices Board prior to exports, during the initial phase of resumption, is given as Annexure I. Accordingly, consignments of spices and spice products as per Annexure I, shall be exported only with the clearance from Spices Board, with effect from **01.10.2020**.

This circular, issued under the provisions of the Spices Board Act 1986 & Spices Board (Registration of Exporters) Regulations 1989, shall remain in force until further orders.



(Hindi version will follow)

Director (Marketing)

To

All Exporters of Spices and Spice Products/ Exporters' Associations.

Copy to:

- 1) Shri M S Banerjee, Under Secretary, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Govt. of India
- 2) All Offices/ QELs of Spices Board
- 3) Dy Director, EDP, Spices Board to host in the Board's website

**ANNEXURE I**

**Mandatory Sampling & Testing of export consignments of Spices and Spice products under the Quality Evaluation System of Spices Board during the COVID-19 situation**

Country/Region	Spices (In Dried Form) & Spice Products	Parameter	Maximum Limit
<b>European Union(EU)</b>	Chilli Whole Turmeric Whole Ginger Whole & Ginger Products Nutmeg Whole & Nutmeg Products Mace Whole & Mace Products	Aflatoxin B1 Aflatoxin Total	5 ppb 10 ppb
	Chilli Powder & Chilli Products Curry Powder & Curry Masalas Curry Pastes & Pickles Turmeric Powder & Products	Aflatoxin B1 Aflatoxin Total Sudan I– IV	5 ppb 10 ppb Not Detected
	Curry Leaves	Profenofos Triazophos Endosulfan	0.05 ppm 0.01 ppm 0.05 ppm
	# Cumin Seeds	Extraneous Matter Other Seeds	3.00 % Max. 0.25 % Max
	Sugar Coated Fennel	Sunset Yellow	Not detected
	Chilli, Chilli Powder & Chilli Products Nutmeg & Nutmeg Products  Compound food, Ready to Eat items etc which contain Chilli, Chilli Products, Nutmeg and Nutmeg Products in a quantity of above 20% (either as a single product or as the sum of these products)	Health Certificate is required from the Spices Board, based on the Cleared Analytical Report for level of aflatoxin	
	<b>USA</b>	Chilli Whole	Aflatoxin Total Salmonella
Chilli Powder & Chilli Products Curry Powder & Curry Masalas Curry Pastes & Pickles		Aflatoxin Total Sudan I– IV Salmonella	20ppb Not Detected Absent in 25g
Turmeric Powder		Sudan I–IV	Not Detected
Cumin Seeds		Extraneous Matter Other Seeds Salmonella	3.00 % Max. 0.25 % Max Absent in 25g
Cumin Ground		Salmonella	Absent in 25g
Sugar Coated Fennel		Sunset Yellow	Not detected
<b>Canada</b>		Chilli Whole	Aflatoxin Total
	Chilli Whole	Aflatoxin Total	15 ppb
	Chilli Powder & Chilli Products Curry Powder & Curry Masalas Curry Pastes & Pickles	Aflatoxin Total Sudan I–IV	15 ppb Not Detected
	Turmeric Powder	Sudan I-IV	Not Detected

	# Cumin Seeds	Extraneous Matter	3.00% Max.	
		Other Seeds	0.25% Max	
	Sugar Coated Fennel	Sunset Yellow	Not Detected	
<b>South Africa</b>	Chilli Whole	Aflatoxin B1 Aflatoxin Total	5 ppb 10 ppb	
	Chilli Powder &Chilli Products Curry Powder & Curry Masalas Curry Pastes &Pickles	Aflatoxin B1 Aflatoxin Total Sudan I-IV	5 ppb 10 ppb Not Detected	
	# Cumin seeds	Extraneous Matter	3.00 % Max.	
		Other Seeds	0.25 % Max	
	Sugar Coated Fennel	Sunset Yellow	Not detected	
<b>North American Countries other than USA and Canada</b>	Chilli Whole	Aflatoxin Total	30 ppb	
	Chilli Powder &Chilli Products Curry Powder& Curry Masalas Curry Pastes &Pickles	Aflatoxin Total  Sudan I-IV	30 ppb  Not Detected	
	Turmeric Powder	Sudan I-IV	Not detected	
	# Cumin Seeds	Extraneous Matter Other Seeds	3.00 % Max. 0.25 % Max	
	Sugar Coated Fennel	Sunset Yellow	Not detected	
	<b>Japan</b>	Chilli whole	Aflatoxin Total  Triazophos Iprobenphos Profenphos Chlorpyriphos Ethion Methyl parathion Parathion Phorate	10 ppb  0.01 ppm 0.01 ppm 5.00 ppm 1.00 ppm 5.00 ppm 5.00 ppm 0.20 ppm 0.10 ppm
		Chilli Powder &Chilli Products Curry Powder& Curry Masalas Curry Pastes &Pickles	Aflatoxin Total SudanI-IV  Triazophos Iprobenphos Profenphos Chlorpyriphos Ethion Methyl parathion Parathion Phorate	10ppb Not Detected  0.01 ppm 0.01 ppm 5.00 ppm 1.00 ppm 5.00 ppm 5.00 ppm 0.20 ppm 0.10 ppm
Cumin Seeds		Extraneous Matter  OtherSeeds  Triazophos Iprobenphos Profenphos	3.00% Max 0.25% Max  0.01 ppm 0.01 ppm 5.00 ppm 5.00 ppm	

	Chlorpyrifos Ethion Methyl parathion Parathion Phorate	3.00 ppm 5.00 ppm 0.10 ppm 0.50 ppm
Cumin Seed ground	Triazophos Iprobenphos Profenphos Chlorpyrifos Ethion Methyl parathion Parathion Phorate	0.01 ppm 0.01 ppm 5.00 ppm 5.00 ppm 3.00 ppm 5.00 ppm 0.10 ppm 0.50 ppm
Turmeric whole	Triazophos Iprobenphos Profenphos Chlorpyrifos Ethion Methyl parathion Parathion Phorate	0.01 ppm 0.01 ppm 5.00 ppm 1.00 ppm 0.30 ppm 3.00 ppm 0.20 ppm 0.10 ppm
Turmeric Powder	Sudan I-IV  Triazophos Iprobenphos Profenphos Chlorpyrifos Ethion Methyl parathion Parathion Phorate	Not Detected  0.01 ppm 0.01 ppm 5.00 ppm 1.00 ppm 0.30 ppm 3.00 ppm 0.20 ppm 0.10 ppm
Cardamom - whole & ground	Triazophos Iprobenphos Profenphos Chlorpyrifos Ethion Methyl parathion Parathion Phorate	0.01 ppm 0.01 ppm 5.00 ppm 1.00 ppm 5.00 ppm 5.00 ppm 0.20 ppm 0.10 ppm
Black Pepper – whole & ground	Triazophos Iprobenphos Profenphos Chlorpyrifos Ethion Methyl parathion Parathion Phorate	0.01 ppm 0.01 ppm 5.00 ppm 1.00 ppm 5.00 ppm 5.00 ppm 0.20 ppm 0.10 ppm
	Ethion Methyl parathion Parathion Phorate	5.00 ppm 5.00 ppm 0.20 ppm 0.10 ppm
Fenugreek - whole & ground	Triazophos Iprobenphos Profenphos Chlorpyrifos Ethion Methyl parathion Parathion	0.01 ppm 0.01 ppm 5.00 ppm 5.00 ppm 3.00 ppm 5.00 ppm 0.10 ppm

		Phorate	0.50 ppm	
	Sugar Coated Fennel	Sunset Yellow	Not Detected	
<b>Australia &amp;New Zealand</b>	Chilli Whole	Aflatoxin Total	15 ppb	
	Chilli Powder &Chilli Products Curry Powder& Curry Masalas Curry Pastes &Pickles	Aflatoxin Total	15 ppb	
		Sudan I-IV	Not Detected	
	Turmeric Powder	Sudan I-IV	Not Detected	
	# Cumin Seeds	Extraneous Matter Other Seeds	3.00% Max. 0.25% Max	
	Sugar Coated Fennel	Sunset Yellow	Not Detected	
<b>Malaysia</b>	* Chilli Whole	Aflatoxin B1 Aflatoxin Total	5 ppb 10 ppb	
	Chilli Powder &Chilli Products Curry Powder& Curry Masalas Curry Pastes &Pickles	Aflatoxin B1 Aflatoxin Total Sudan I-IV	5 ppb 10 ppb Not Detected	
	# Cumin Seeds	Extraneous Matter Other Seeds	3.00% Max. 0.25% Max	
	Sugar Coated Fennel	Sunset Yellow	Not Detected	
	<b>Saudi Arabia</b>	Small Cardamom	Acetamiprid	0.1 ppm
			Cyhalothrin (includes lambda cyhalothrin)	2 ppm
Cypermethrin (including alpha and zeta cypermethrin)			3 ppm	
Profenofos			3 ppm	
Triazophos			4 ppm	
Dithiocarbamates			0.1 ppm	
<b>South East Asian Countries and China</b>	* Chilli Whole	Aflatoxin Total	30 ppb	
	* Container stuffing for export is permitted based on the 'Sample Drawn Certificate' provided by the Board.			
<b>All other countries</b>	# Cumin Seeds	Extraneous Matter Other Seeds	3.00%Max. 0.25%Max	
	# Container stuffing for export is permitted based on undertaking endorsed by Spices Board, for export of Cumin seeds to all destinations except USA and Japan. In the case of USA and Japan, exports of Cumin seeds are permitted only with the Cleared Analytical Report OR No Objection Certificate (NOC) from Spices Board.			

  
**DIRECTOR (MARKETING)**