



## SPICES BOARD

(Ministry of Commerce & Industry Govt. of India)  
Sugandha Bhavan  
N.H.By-pass  
P.B.No. 2277  
Palarivattom P.O.  
Kochi - 682 025, India

## स्पाइसेस बोर्ड

(वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार)  
सुगन्ध भवन  
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कोच्ची - 682 025, भारत

Circular No: 22/2024-25

07<sup>th</sup> January, 2025

**Sub:** Requirements for obtaining No Objection Certificate from Spices Board for return of Spices -reg

Spices Board has been receiving requests from exporters for issuance of No Objection Certificate (NOC) for returning / re-routing of spice consignments, that have been recalled/not cleared by the authorities of the importing countries, due to non-compliance with the applicable standards of the respective country.

In this regard, the instructions / steps involved in processing and issuance of NOC are given below, for strict compliance of the exporters, so as to enable timely processing of NOC requests.

1. The NOCs will be issued only by the Spices Board head office and the firms which require a NOC, shall submit the i) Summary report in the table given below, ii) Alert report (attached as Annexure I), iii) Root Cause Analysis (RCA) Report (attached as Annexure II), iv) Measures adopted by the exporter for non-recurrence of the incident, v) Copy of sourcing, process and quality evaluation SOPs of the exporter, vi) Invoice & Shipping bill (with details of the buyer), vii) Details of the Office concerned of the port health authority / regulatory body (address with email), viii) Test report from importing country (if available), ix) Utilization plan for the consignment once back to India with timelines and x) Additional Information (if any available / sought by the Board)

Name of Invoice Exporter	Container No & date	Container number	Date of departure from India	Destination port	Product details	Quantity (MT)	Port of Entry India (on return of the

									consignme nt)

2. The request along with the requisite documents shall be submitted by email to dm.sb-ker@gov.in with copy to marketing.sb-ker@gov.in, nithin.joe@nic.in & razyprn.sb@gov.in and the respective Regional office of the Board.
3. On receipt of the requisite documents, the request will be evaluated by the technical cell of the Board and issuance of the NOC will be considered, as follows.
  - i) if the exporter intends to utilize the material for domestic use, NOC will be considered only if the value of the toxin/contaminant/residue reported by the importing country is within the maximum level applicable in India.
  - ii) if the exporter intends to re-route / re-export the material to a different country, NOC will be considered only if the value of the toxin/contaminant/residue reported by the importing country is within the maximum level applicable for the destination country.
4. The exporter shall use the returned products only as per the course of action approved and communicated by Spices Board. Also the exporter shall submit all the relevant documents / evidence for effective utilization of the returned consignment, within the time period stipulated by the Board.
5. The NOCs are being issued by Spices Board in its capacity as the competent authority for export promotion of spices and spice products and based on the request by the firm and the course of action approved by the Board. With regard to the return/entry of consignment to India, the instructions/guidelines/rules/regulations, if any, issued by FSSAI/Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) / any other relevant Department/ Organization/Authority, shall prevail.
6. A copy of the communication to the exporter will be marked to Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) & Customs for needful action.

7. The NOC is issued after thorough scrutiny of the action plan for compliance with the applicable standards of the countries concerned, verification of documents and details etc. Accordingly, the issuance of NOC shall involve a turnaround time of at least 7 working days from the date of submission of complete documents/ details as per Sl. No 1 above. Hence, the exporters shall submit the request for NOCs well in advance, so as to avoid penal charges /demurrage at the importing country.

It may be noted that as per Regulation 5 (13) of the Spices Board Registration of Exporters Regulations, the exporter shall neither contract to export nor export spices which do not conform to the standards in force in the importing country. Accordingly, the exporter shall take necessary steps to ensure compliance of the export consignments with the applicable standards, thereby avoiding chances for recall / non- clearance. The NOCs are issued by the Board only as a facilitative measure and the Board, by taking into account various micro and macro level factors, shall decide not to consider the request for issuance of NOC.



Director (MKTG)

बी.एन. झा / B.N JHA

प्रभारी निदेशक (विपणन)

DIRECTOR (MARKETING) I/C

स्पाइसेस बोर्ड / SPICES BOARD

आयुक्त निदेशक (विपणन)  
Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Govt. of India  
कोच्ची / KOCHI-682025

To

All Exporters of Spices and Spice Products / Exporter Associations / Regional Offices of the Board

(Issued from File No: MKT-SB/TP-NOC/2024 - 22429)

(Hindi Version follows)

**Annexure-I**

**FORMAT FOR REPORTING THE STATUS OF A CONSIGNMENT  
REJECTED BY THE IMPORTING COUNTRY**

<b>S.No.</b>	<b>Particulars</b>	<b>Details sought from exporter</b>
<b>1</b>	Rapid Alert No and date	
	Alert issuing Country & Region	
<b>2</b>	Reason of rejection of consignment	
<b>3</b>	Name of the Exporter with address & contact details (Phone/Fax/e-mail)	
	Place of dispatch (with full address)	
<b>4</b>	Whether Intimation received from importing country on rejection of consignment. If so the details along with copy of alert may be attached	Alert / Letter No : Dated :
a.	Invoice No. & Date	No. .... Date :
b.	Airway bill/ Bill of Lading	No. .... Date :
c	Lab Test Report	No. .... Date :
d	Phytosanitary Certificate (if any)	No. .... Date :
<b>5</b>	Product(s) of shipment under the above consignment (with HS Code)	
<b>6</b>	Date of departure of shipment from India (as per Bill of Lading)	
<b>7</b>	Name & Address of importer and country of imports	
<b>8</b>	Date of landing of consignment in the importing country (Please specify country)	

9	Details of laboratory from where prior to export testing was conducted	
10	Was the consignment complaint with importing country norms. If yes, please provide brief details of test report no. and date and provide a copy of the test report	
11	When was intimation of rejection received by the exporter and from what source.	
12	Action taken to retrieve the situation at exporter's end. (details to be mentioned right from backward linkage like collection of produce to Post Harvest Handling like sorting, grading, packing and Transportation)	A brief note may be attached
	Details of source of purchase	Name of the supplier : Date of supply : Whether any processing was done in the factory ? : Copy of invoice ( pl attach) Whether raw material was tested. If so the copy may be shared
13	Was the incident reported to Spices Board. If yes, when and how (please provide copies of communication	

	in this regard)	
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Seal of Firm

Signature of the Exporter

### Report on Root Cause Analysis

(separate report may be furnished for each rejected/recalled product)

1	Name & address of the Company	
2	Details of Spices Board CRES /RCMC  Region/State	No:  Merchant/Manufacturer
3	Rejection/ Recall reference (information shall be provided w.r.to all recalled products)	Rejection/ recall No/Nos: date Item/Items:
4	When was intimation of rejection received by the exporter and from what source.	
5	Details of rejection / recall	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Item -</li><li>2. Toxin/Contaminants/Pesticide Residue (PR)/Other contaminants -</li><li>3. Reported value -</li><li>4. Allowed value (MRL)-</li><li>5. Invoice No &amp; date(enclose copy):</li><li>6. Airway bill/ Bill of Lading No &amp; date (enclose copy):</li><li>7. Lab test report No &amp; date (enclose copy)</li><li>8. Phytosanitary certificate, if any (enclose copy)</li><li>9. Other products shipped along with the rejected /recalled product with HS code (enclose packing list)</li></ol>
6	Details of source of purchase	Enclose details as per Annexure I
7	Date of departure of shipment from India (as per Bill of Lading)	
8	Name & Address of importer and country of imports	
9	Date of landing of consignment in the importing country (Please specify country)	
10	Details of the factory (s)/ unit (s) where	

	the rejected/recalled product(s) have been manufactured	
11	Procedures deployed by the firm for checking the presence of the toxins / contaminants / PR / Other contaminants in export consignments	(SOP / Supporting documents may be enclosed)
12	<p>Details of testing by the firm at various stages of supply chain for the toxins / contaminants / PR / Others in the rejected/ recalled consignments</p> <p>(Was the consignment compliant with importing country norms. If yes, please provide brief details of test report no. and date and provide a copy of the test report)</p>	(Reports may be enclosed)
13	Action taken to retrieve the situation at exporter's end. (details to be mentioned right from backward linkage like collection of produce to Post Harvest Handling like sorting, grading, packing and Transportation)	A brief note may be attached
14	Details of ETO treatment/steam sterilization facility available with / used by the exporter (if any)	(Details may be enclosed)
15	Was the incident reported to Spices Board. If yes, when and how (please provide copies of communication in this regard)	
16	<p>Details of root cause analysis conducted by the exporter after receipt of the rejection / recall and findings</p> <p>a) Reasons for contamination</p> <p>b) Critical control points identified</p> <p>c) Action plan / corrective measure for preventing recurrence in future etc</p> <p>d) Other findings</p>	(Documents and details may be enclosed)

**Additional Details if any:**



List of documents enclosed:

ANNEXURE I

Sl No	Name & Address of supplier	Item Supplied	Quantity	Date of supply	Invoice No & date (attach copy)	Whether any processing was done at the supplier's end	Whether the raw material was tested. If so attach copy of test report
1							