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Title: Need to ban the manufacturing and sale of flavoured betel nut in the country.

SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE (BARAMATI): Madam, Speaker, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the use of flavoured and scented *supari* especially among the children and youth. In 2004, the World Health Organization had classified areca or betel nut as carcinogenic to humans even without addition of tobacco to it. As per the International Agency for Research on Cancer and World Health Organization monograph, *supari* (areca nut or betel nut) causes dependence syndrome, cancer, heart disease, diabetes, blood pressure, obesity, reproductive health disorder. *Supari* is made more attractive for a wider section of the population, including kids, by flavouring and scenting it or by mixing additives to it. It is available practically everywhere and is also sold in ready-to-chew pouches called Pan Masala, as a mixture of many flavours whose primary base is arecanut crushed into small pieces. Maharashtra has taken first steps in prohibiting arecanut which is flavoured, scented or mixed with additives. I would request the Government to ban the manufacturing/sale and distribution of flavoured/scented *supari* in all the States to reduce the menace of this disease and save our youth.