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Title: Need to provide clearance to the dal importers at Chennai port as per the provision by FSSAI.

SHRI K. ASHOK KUMAR (KRISHNAGIRI): Hon. Madam Speaker, I stand here to raise an important issue regarding the problems being faced by the Tamil Nadu Dal Manufacturers Association. One of the main problems that comes when they import pulses is that they do not get clearance within the timeframe as provided in the Food Safety and Standards Regulations Act. The Act provides that the clearance should be given within five days from the arrival of the consignment, but it has been seen that the Authorities, especially, the Chennai Port takes about two weeks time to give clearance, which is causing great hardships to the importers.

Moreover there is an urgent need to differentiate the specifications for raw pulses from those of processed dals. The FSSAI should be given clear-cut directions to facilitate timely clearance of consignment, especially at the Chennai Port, and also to issue orders to identify the specifications between raw pulses and processed pulses.

Madam, I would, therefore, urge upon the Union Government to take immediate steps on this matter. Thank you.