



Shri Ashwani Kumar,  
Joint Secretary (Plant Protection),  
Ministry of Agriculture,  
Krishi Bhavan,  
New Delhi.

16<sup>th</sup> April 2019

**Subject: Indian Fumigation requirements on imports of agricultural commodities - need for extension of derogation post June**

Dear Shri Ashwani Kumar,

As you are aware, Gafta is the international association representing the trade in agricultural commodities and GPC the (Global Pulse Confederation) is the association representing the pulses industry value chain.

We have written to you previously in relation to the Indian requirements on the use of Methyl Bromide on imports of agricultural commodities which is of great concern to many of our members. As our mission is to promote free trade, we welcomed the news granting a derogation last December 2018 which was applicable to "all concerned countries" permitting those exporting from countries where methyl bromide is banned to supply commodities to India if cargoes are fumigated at point of import and other provisions on penalties met.

As the end of the derogation is approaching on the 30<sup>th</sup> June 2019, Gafta and GPC would like to request that you consider a further extension of the derogation post June so that free trade of commodities continues without disruption.

We would also like to take this opportunity to ask if results from studies undertaken on efficacy of alternative solutions such as phosphine are available.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Your sincerely,

Jaine Chisholm-Caunt  
Director General, Gafta

Huseyin Arslan  
President, GPC

*CC: Dr. A K Sinha, Plant Protection Advisor, Dte. Of Plant Protection, Quarantine & Storage, Faridabad*

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