

**Regulation (EU) 2015/2283 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 November 2015 on novel foods**

Consultation request for a determination of novel food status pursuant to Article 4(2) of the above Regulation

**Recipient Member State:** German Federal Office for Consumer Protection and Food Safety (BVL)

**Information pursuant to Article 7 of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2018/456**

**1. Name and description of the food concerned**

Kala namak (also known as: Himalayan black salt)

Kala namak is a rock salt, which is heated together with Harad seeds (*Terminalia chebula*) or parts of the plant *Salsola stocksii* until it melts, after which the plant material carbonises. The salt also contains small quantities of hydrogen sulphide.

Kala namak is an Indian-Pakistani speciality.

**2. Novel food status**

The product is not novel.

**3. Food category under which the food falls**

not applicable

**4. Justification**

It appears from the documentation provided by the applicant that the food in question is listed in the Austrian Food Code (*Codex Alimentarius Austriacus*) as a table salt.

During the consultation, the Austrian competent authority confirmed that Kala namak is listed as a 'special salt' in the Austrian Food Code and is not considered to be novel. Its inclusion in the Food Code and classification as a non-novel food is based on information available in Austria from the competent authority of the United Kingdom, according to which Kala namak was traditionally used in foods in the United Kingdom before 15 May 1997. It was therefore classified as not novel.