

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4726

ANSWERED ON:25.04.2000

ADULTERATION OF EDIBLE COMMODITIES

ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL;RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATIA;RAMSHETH THAKUR

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned 'Three arrested with spurious mustard oil' appearing in the Hindustan Times dated December 20, 1999;
- (b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein and reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) the number of complaints in this regard came to the notice of the Government during the last three years;
- (d) whether the Government have enquired into the said complaints; and
- (e) if so, the number of traders against whom action has been taken?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)

(SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM)

(a)&(b) The Prevention of Food Adulteration Act 1954 and the Rules thereunder were enacted by the Central Government. The administration and enforcement of the PFA Act 1954 and the rules thereunder is the responsibility of the State Governments/Union Territory Administration. As per information received from the Govt. of National Capital Territory of Delhi the SHO Keshavpuram PS, raided some premises in Lawrence Road Industrial Area on 19.12.99 and seized spurious mustard oil from the premises along with some pure oil colour concentrate and colour powder. The samples on analysis were found to contain unpermitted oil which resembled soyabean oil and soluble synthetic colour which was also unpermitted. The samples were taken by the police. Hence no action has been taken under Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954.

(c)to(e) The Govt. of National Capital Territory of Delhi has further intimated that the record of the complaints available with the Directorate of PFA during the period 1998 have been seized by the CBI in connection with the inquiry regarding dropsy epidemic. Further information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.