

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1515
ANSWERED ON:15.07.2009
STRICT ENFORCEMENT OF PFA ACT, 1954
Nahata Smt. P. Jaya Prada

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

- (a) whether the existing provision or the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 are inadequate and unable to prevent food adulteration in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is considering for strict enforcement of the provisions of PFA Act, 1954 and rules made thereunder; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD)

(a): No.

(b): Does not arise.

(c) to (d):- The Prevention of Food Adulteration (PFA) Act, 1954 has been amended from time to time to plug the loopholes, to make punishment more stringent and to empower consumers and voluntary organizations for playing more effective role in its implementation.

The enforcement of PFA Act and Rules is entrusted to the Food (Health) Authorities of States/U.Ts. The States/U.Ts Governments are advised from time to time to check the adulteration and keep a strict vigil to enforce the provisions of PFA Act and Rules. In case of samples of food found adulterated or not conforming to the standards, action is taken under the provisions of PFA Act, 1954, which stipulate imprisonment of six months to life imprisonment depending upon the gravity of offence awarded by the courts. A new Act, namely, the Food Safety and Standards Act 2006 has also been enacted to replace various food laws, including the PFA Act 1954 with more comprehensive provisions by consolidating them and for establishing the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India for laying down science based standards for articles of food and to regulate their manufacture, storage, distribution, sale and import, to ensure availability of safe and wholesome food for human consumption and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.