

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1552  
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2011  
EXPIRED CONSUMABLE ITEMS  
Ramasubbu Shri S.;Rawat Shri Ashok Kumar

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

- (a) whether sale of expired consumable items/food items including imported products has been reported in the country;
- (b) if so,the details thereof, State/UTwise;
- (c) the action taken by the Government thereon;
- (d) whether the Government has issued any directions to the State Governments in this regard; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE(SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD)

- (a)& (b)-No such specific complaint regarding expired consumable items/food items including imported products has been reported.
- (c) to (e) -The implementation of the Prevention of Food Adulteration (PFA) Act, 1954 and Rules framed thereunder is entrusted with the Food (Health) Authorities of the States/U.Ts. They have been instructed to lift samples of imported food articles sold in the market and take action including prosecution of offenders in the cases where the samples are found to be adulterated/misbranded or violating the labeling provisions of the PFA Act, 1954 and Rules framed thereunder.

Further,as a preventive measure, the Department of Commerce has issued a Notification under Section 5 of the Foreign Trade (Development and Regulation) Act, 1992 that all edible/food products, domestic sale and manufacture of which are governed by the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 shall also be subject to the condition that at the time of importation, the products are having a valid shelf life of not less than 60% of its original shelf life. Accordingly All Port/Airport Health Officers & Custom Collectors at Ports/Airports have been advised to ensure that all the imported food articles comply with all the provisions including labeling requirement of the PFA Rules,1955 and having a valid shelf life not less than 60% of its original shelf life before the same are released into the country for human consumption.