

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:203
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2011
QUALITY OF MINERAL WATER
Deshmukh Shri K. D.;Lal Shri Kirodi

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of companies which have been issued licenses for manufacture and sale of mineral/bottled water;
- (b) whether the Government has taken note of infringement/violation of Standards of Packaged Water Rules in the matter of manufacture and sale of packaged water/bottled mineral water;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon indicating the number of such complaints received during each of the last three years and the current year; and
- (d) the mechanism in place to monitor the standards for bottled/mineral water and to ensure their compliance?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K. V. THOMAS)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.203 FOR 16.08.2011 REGARDING QUALITY OF MINERAL WATER.

(a) : The number of companies (licensees of Bureau of Indian Standards) engaged in manufacture of Packaged Drinking Water and Packaged Natural Mineral Water are 3047 and 20 respectively.

(b) to (d): Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) an autonomous institution under the administrative control of Department of Consumer Affairs is entrusted with the responsibility of taking note of infringement/violation of standards of Packaged Water by the licencees through surveillance inspections & testing of factory & market samples under its certification scheme and complaints received from consumers relating to poor quality of product.

Number of quality related complaints pertaining to licencees, received during last three years (up to 5 August 2011) in respect of Packaged Natural Mineral Water and Packaged Drinking Water respectively are as under:

Year	No. of Complaints received for Natural Mineral Water (IS:13428)	Number of Complaints received for Packaged Drinking Water (IS: 14543)
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2008-09	01	10
2009-10	Nil	06
2010-11	Nil	05
2011-12 (upto 5th Aug. 2011)	Nil	02

In case the infringement/violation of the standard is noticed, actions like warning/stop marking/ deferment of licence/expiry of licence/ cancellation of licence is taken.