## GOVERNMENT OF INDIA FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7589
ANSWERED ON:22.05.2012
QUALITY ASSURANCE IN FPIS
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## Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) the guidelines for quality and safety measures for the Indian Food Processing Industries (FPIs) under the Quality Assurance Scheme;
- (b) the steps taken by the Government for improving and implementing standard quality practices;
- (c) whether any monitoring and complaint mechanism is in place for this purpose;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the details of complaints received in the current year alongwith the steps taken by the Government to get these complaints redressed?

## **Answer**

## THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT)

- (a) & (b): The Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MFPI) extends financial assistance as grant-in-aid to Food Processing Industries, for adoption of safety measures through the scheme for Quality Assurance, Codex Standard, Research and Development and other Promotional Activities. The detailed guidelines for the schemes are enclosed at Annexure-I.
- (c) & (d): Yes, Madam. Government has enforced Food Safety & Standards Regulation 2011 on 5th of August, 2011, wherein the Food Safety & Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) under Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has been mandated to monitor the quality and safety of food by enforcing food safety and standards regulations, 2011 throughout the country. Monitoring and Inspection carried out once in a year to verify the compliances as per schedule-4. Auditing agencies are also authorized by the Food Authority to inspect/audit these industries to verify the compliances.

Random samples of various food articles are drawn regularly by the States/UT Governments and penal action is taken against the offenders, in cases where samples are found to be non-conforming to the provisions of the Act.

(e): Food Safety & Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has informed that since 5th August, 2011, they have received 7 complaints (viz: UP-5, Maharashtra-1 and Delhi-1). All these are in the different stages of redressal.