

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2250

ANSWERED ON:24.08.2012

ADULTERATION IN FOOD ARTICLES

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

- (a) the system put in place by the Government to test/examine adulteration in food articles in the country;
- (b) whether the procedure of collecting samples is weak and poor in the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor indicating the number of samples of food articles taken and out of those found to be adulterated during each of the last three years and the current year so far; and
- (d) the measures taken/proposed by the Government to strengthen the food testing facilities in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY)

(a) to (c): At present there are 72 State Food testing laboratories, 55 private accredited laboratories and 4 Referral laboratories for testing food as per the standards prescribed under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 and Regulations made thereunder. As per information made available by States/UTs, details regarding number of total samples examined and number of samples found adulterated during 2009, 2010 and 2011-12, are as under: -

Year 2009 2010 2011-12

Sample
examined 113969 117062 35757

Sample found
adulterated 12692 14806 3407

(d) : State/UT Governments have been requested to strengthen their food regulatory enforcement mechanism. Upgradation of food testing facilities in the country is a continuous process.