

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:221

ANSWERED ON:04.12.2009

FOOD ADULTERATION LAWS

Das Shri Bhakta Charan;Kaswan Shri Ram Singh

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

- (a) whether the existing laws to prevent food adulteration are adequate;
- (b) if so, the reasons for the rise in the number of cases of food adulteration in the recent times; and
- (c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) Yes, Madam.

(b) As per the information provided by the State / UT Governments, the percentage of adulteration in food articles declined from 11.03% of the samples collected in 2003 to 7.35 % in 2007.

(c) Considering the need for a comprehensive approach to food safety in the country, the Parliament has passed the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, integrating the multiplicity of provisions under various food related laws and inter alia regulating the food safety standards, uniform licensing, etc in the country. Further, under the provisions of the said Act, the Government has constituted the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India in September, 2008, to carry out the purposes of the said Act.