

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1566

ANSWERED ON:13.12.2013

ADULTERATION IN ESSENTIAL FOOD ITEMS

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

- (a) whether a large number of adulterated and spurious food items including milk/milk products, edible vegetable oil, spices, pulses, vegetables etc. are reportedly being sold in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the number of such cases registered/ challaned and the penal action taken against the offenders during each of the last three years and the current year, item and State/ UT-wise;
- (c) the details of the mechanism put in place to monitor and check the sale of adulterated food items in the country; and
- (d) the further steps taken/being taken by the Government to curb adulteration in food items?

Answer

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

- (a) & (b): As per information made available by the States/UTs, the percentage of number of food samples found adulterated during the year 2012-13 was 15.85. The State/UT-wise details showing the number of food samples examined, found adulterated, number of cases in which prosecution has been launched and the number of convictions for the last three years and the current year is at Annexure.
- (c) & (d): The implementation and enforcement of Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 and Rules, Regulations made thereunder rest with State/UTs Governments. Random Samples of food items are drawn by the State Food Safety Officers and sent to the laboratories recognized by FSSAI for analysis. In case where samples are found to be not conforming to the provisions of the Act and the Rules and Regulations made thereunder, penal action is taken against the offender.