GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2799 ANSWERED ON:07.02.2014 FOOD SAFETY Shanayas Shri M. I.

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

- (a) whether the Government has takennote that a number of hotels and restaurantsare serving sub-standard quality food tothe customers resulting in incidents of foodpoisoning;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along withthe action taken by the Government duringeach of the last three years and the currentyear, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has extended the deadline for hoteliers and restaurants to get the mandatory licenseand registration under the Food Safety and Standards Act;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and thereasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps taken/proposed by the Government to ensure more effective monitoring and regular inspections of hotelsand restaurants in the country in order tocheck such incidents?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD)

- (a) & (b): The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), the nodal agency for regulating manufacture, storage, distribution, sale and import of articles of food, has reported that as per information received from some of the State/UT Governments, no incidence of food poisoning has been detected / reported except one case each in Kerala and Uttar Pradesh.In these cases the prosecutions have been launched
- (c) & (d): On the request of various stakeholders and associations, the Government has extended the timeline upto 4th August 2014 for all the Food Business Operators including hoteliers and restaurants seeking conversion/renewal of existing license / registration.
- (e): The implementation and enforcement of Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 rests with State/UTs Government. Random Samples of food items are being 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.