

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:110
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2015
QUALITY CONTROL OF BOTTLED WATER
Reddy Shri Ch. Malla

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of companies manufacturing and selling bottled/mineral water in the country, State-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has received new requests for grant of license for manufacture and sale of bottled mineral water, if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the norms stipulated by the Bureau of Indian Standards do not conform to International Standards for packaged water, if so, the details thereof and the corrective steps taken in this regard; and
- (d) whether the Government has put in place any regulatory body for quality control of bottled water if so, the details thereof and the action taken by it to ensure supply of good quality water?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN)

(a) to (d) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.110 FOR 03.03.2015 REGARDING QUALITY CONTROL OF BOTTLED WATER.

(a) : As per the information available from the State/UT Governments, Food Licensing Registration System (FLRS) and regional offices of FSSAI, the details of the number of companies manufacturing and selling bottled/mineral water in the country under FSS Act, 2006 is at Annexure-I.

(b) : The licensing and registration of Food Business Operators (FBOs) is an ongoing process.

However, the lists of applications which are in process for getting license/ registration till date is at Annexure-II.

(c) : There are no ISO standards on Packaged Drinking Water. While setting the Indian Standard on Packaged Drinking water, assistance has been derived from the Codex Standard on Packaged Drinking Water.

Since Packaged Drinking Water is under mandatory certification as per the Food Safety and Standards (Prohibition and Restrictions on sales) Regulations, 2011; the Indian Standards of this product is aligned to the FSSAI Regulation for this product.

(d) :(i) All Food Business Operators engaged in the production of mineral water/ packaged drinking water have to follow the standards of packaged drinking water as per Regulation 2.10.7 and 2.10.8 of Food Safety and Standards (Food product standards and food Additives) Regulations, 2011.

(ii) As per the regulation 2.3.14 (17) & 2.3.14 (18) of Food Safety and Standards (Prohibition and Restriction on sales) Regulations, 2011 ?No person shall manufacture, sell or exhibit for sale packaged drinking water and mineral water except under the Bureau of Indian Standards Certification Mark?.

(iii) The implementation and enforcement of Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 primarily rests with the State/UT Governments. Random Samples of food items, including those of packaged drinking water and mineral water, are being drawn by the State Food Safety Officers and sent to the laboratories recognized by FSSAI for analysis. In cases where samples are found to be not conforming to the provisions of the Act and the Rules and Regulations made there under, provisions of penal action against the offenders are provided in the FSS Act.