

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2970

ANSWERED ON:13.03.2015

FOOD SAFETY AND STANDARDS ACT .

Adsul Shri Anandrao ;Chauhan Shri Devusinh Jesingbhai;Galla Shri Jayadev;Kalvakuntla Smt. Kavitha;Mani Shri Jose K.;Mishra Shri Daddan;Nayak Shri B.V.;Patil Shri Shivaji Adhalrao;Patle Smt. Kamla Devi;Roy Prof. Saugata;Scindia Shri Jyotiraditya Madhavrao;Shrirang Shri Chandu Barne;Singh Shri Bhola;Singh Shri Rakesh;Venkatesh Babu Shri T.G.;Yadav Shri Dharmendra

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

(a) whether the Government proposes amendments to the Food Safety and Standards Act, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the time by which the said Act is likely to be amended;

(b) whether the Government has constituted an expert panel in this regard, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government for effective implementation of the said Act and to make it more stringent for punishment to adulterators of food items?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA)

(a): Keeping in view the observations of the Supreme Court in a petition relating to adulteration/contamination in milk and milk products in the country wherein the Supreme Court observed that considering the gravity of the situation as well as in larger public interest, it is necessary that the Union of India should think of making appropriate amendments in the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, so that such crimes could be curbed to a large extent, and representations received from various stakeholders, it has been decided to review the provisions of the Food Safety and Standards Act.

(b): A Committee has been constituted for undertaking a comprehensive review of the Food Safety and Standards Act. The Committee is headed by Secretary, National Disaster Management Authority and comprises representatives of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), Ministry of Food Processing Industries, Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, Department of Consumer Affairs, Department of Commerce, Department of Legal Affairs, and Food Safety Commissioners of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, West Bengal and Odisha.

(c): Implementation and enforcement of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 primarily rests with State/UT Governments. Random samples of food items, are drawn by the State Food Safety Officers and are sent to the laboratories recognised by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) for analysis.

All State Governments have also been requested to finalize State wide Action Plan to draw and test samples of milk products at regular intervals.