

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:363
ANSWERED ON:11.07.2014
ADULTERATION IN FOOD ITEMS
Patle Smt. Kamla Devi

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 penal action taken against the offenders during each of the last three years and the current year, item and State/ UT-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has taken note of spreading of number of diseases due to consumption of adulterated food items; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to counter/check this menace?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. HARSH VARDHAN)

(a) & (b): The primary responsibility of the enforcement of the Food Safety and Standards Act lies with the State / UT Governments. As per the information received from the State/UT Governments, 46283 food samples including milk/milk products, edible vegetable Oil, spice etc. were analysed. Out of these, 9265 food samples were found to be adulterated and misbranded during the year 2013-14. The State wise details showing the number of cases registered / challenged and cases in which prosecution has been launched and the number of convictions for the last three years is at Annexure.

(c) & (d): Some cases of food- borne disease out- breaks have been detected. The Government of India has initiated Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP) with the aim to detect and respond to disease outbreaks. Further, the regular surveillance, monitoring & sampling of food products is undertaken by State /UT Governments under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 to curb the problem of food adultretation. Instructions in this regard are issued by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India from time to time. Random Samples of food items are drawn by the State Food Safety Officers and sent to the laboratories recognised by FSSAI for analysis. In cases where samples are found to be not conforming to the provisions of the Act and the Rules & Regulations made thereunder, penal action is initiated against of offender.