

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.4440
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19TH JULY, 2019**

PACKAGED FOOD PRODUCTS

**4440. SHRI HARISH DWIVEDI:
SHRI VIJAY BAGHEL:**

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

- (a) the norms formulated to ensure the purity of packaged items in the country;
- (b) the details of the penal provisions against the guilty if the information/figures given in packaged food items are found contrary to the norms during testing;
- (c) the details of the authorised laboratories established for the quality test of food items in the country, State and location-wise;
- (d) whether the Government allocated funds to States for setting up of Food Testing Laboratories and if so, the details thereof indicating the funds allocated to States for the purpose during the last three years, State/UT-wise including Chhattisgarh; and
- (e) whether the Government is contemplating to make the relevant rules regarding food items more stricter in view of the complaints received in respect of the packaged food items and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)**

(a): Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has prescribed food standards for most of the food categories under Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Regulations, 2011. These Regulations also contain list of permitted food additives and limits of food additives permitted in food categories. FSSAI has also prescribed the limits of heavy metals, crop contaminants, pesticides and antibiotics residues in various commodities under Food Safety and Standards (Contaminants, Toxins and Residues) Regulations, 2011

Schedule 4 of the Food Safety and Standards (Licensing and Registration) Regulations, 2011 prescribes the sanitary and hygiene practices required to be observed by the Food Business Operators (FBOs). Further, every FBO manufacturing pre-packaged food items has to follow the provisions of FSS (Packaging and Labelling) Regulations, 2011 wherein it is mandatory for the pre-packaged food to display nutritional information, list of ingredients, 'best before' etc. as prescribed under sub-regulation 2.2.2 of these Regulations. The responsibility and liabilities of Food Business Operators (FBOs) including manufacturers, packers, wholesalers, distributors and sellers are prescribed under Section 26 and Section 27 respectively of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006.

(b): Penalty provisions contained in Section 52 relating to 'Penalty for misbranded food', Section 53 relating to 'penalty for misleading advertisement' and Section 61 relating to 'Punishment for false information' of the Food Safety and Standards (FSS) Act, 2006 shall apply in cases where information/figures given in the packaged food items are found to be contrary to the norms.

(c): FSSAI, at present, has a network of 259 laboratories across the country comprising of 241 laboratories for primary testing (including 179 recognised and notified under Section 43 (1) of FSS Act and 62 State Food Labs continuing under transition provision) and 18 laboratories for appellate (Referral) testing recognised and notified under Section 43(2) of the said Act. State/UT wise and location wise number of these laboratories is at **Annexure-I**.

(d): FSSAI is implementing a Central Sector Scheme (CSS) for “Strengthening of Food Testing System in the Country including Provision of Mobile Food Testing Labs” with an outlay of Rs. 481.95 Crores. Under the Scheme, an amount of Rs. 10 crore appx is earmarked for a State Food lab towards renovation, procurement of high end equipment, setting of a microbiology labs on a case to case basis. The Central Sector Scheme, inter-alia, also envisages financial support for creation of new State Food Testing Labs (SFTLs) in the States of Arunachal Pradesh and Mizoram subject to readiness of the State Governments. However, no viable proposal has been received from these States so far. State/UT wise details of funds released during the last three years for upgradation of State labs, including for the State of Chattisgarh is at **Annexure II**.

(e): All the Rules and Regulations regarding food items are constantly reviewed and necessary changes are made as and when required to strengthen these.

State/UT - wise number of food testing laboratories in the country

S. No.	State/UT	Food Testing labs notified under Section 43(1) of FSS Act, 2006			State Food Laboratories under Transition phase	Referral Laboratories notified under Section 43(2) of FSS Act, 2006
		Government		Private		
		State	Other Institutions			
1	Andhra Pradesh	-	Kakinada-1	Vishakhapatnam-3 Nellore -1 Guntur-1	Vishakhapatnam-1	Guntur-1
2	Assam	-	-	-	Guwahati-1	-
3	Bihar	-	-	-	Patna-1	-
4	Chhattisgarh	-	-	-	Raipur-1	-
5	Daman & Diu	-	-	Daman-1	-	-
6	GNCT of Delhi	-	-	Delhi -19	Delhi-1	-
7	Goa	-	-	Madgaon-1	Bambolim-1	-
8	Gujarat	Ahmedabad- 1 Vadodara-1 Bhuj -1 Rajkot-1	-	Ahmedabad-5 Vadodara-2 Surat-2 Gandhidham-1	Surat-1	Anand-1-
9	Haryana	-	-	Bahadurgarh-3 Panchkula -4 Gurugram-6 Panipat-1	Karnal-1, Chandigarh-1	-
10	Himachal Pradesh	-	-	Baddi-Solan	Solan-1	-
11	Jammu & Kashmir	-	Jammu-1	-	Jammu-1, Srinagar-1	-
12	Jharkhand	-	-	Ranchi-1	Ranchi-1	-
13	Karnataka	-	-	Bengaluru -12 Mysuru-1	Bengaluru -2 Mysuru-1 Belgavi-1, Kalaburagi-1	Bengaluru-1, Mysuru-1
14	Kerala	Ernakulum-1 Kozhikode-1 Thiruvananthapuram-1	Thrissur -1 Kochi-1 Pathanamthitta-1 Kollam-1 Ernakulum-1	Kochi-5 Aroor-2	-	Kochi-2
15	Madhya Pradesh	-	-	Indore-5 Bhopal-2 Jabalpur-1	Bhopal-1	-

16	Maharashtra	Mumbai-1 Pune-1	Mumbai-1 Pune-1	Nagpur-2 Nasik -2 Thane -5 Navi Mumbai-6 Pune-7 Mumbai -3	Aurangabad-2, Jalgaon-1, Kolhapur-1 Sholapur-1 Ahmednagar-1 Mumbai -2 Nashik-1 Sangli-1 Satara-1 Nagpur-2, Amravat-1 Nanded-1	Pune-2 Navi Mumbai-1
17	Manipur	-	-	-	Imphal-1	-
18	Meghalaya	-	-	-	Shillong-1	-
19	Nagaland	-	-	-	Kohima-1	-
20	Odisha	-	-	Bhubaneswar-1	Bhubaneswar-1	-
21	Puducherry	-	-	-	Gorimedu-1	-
22	Punjab	-	Mohali-1	Patiala-1 Ludhiana-1	Kharar-1	Mohali-1
23	Rajasthan	-	Jaipur-1	Jaipur-5	Ajmer-1 Jaipur-1 Jodhpur-1 Alwar-1 Udaipur-1, Kota-1, Bikaner-1, Banswara-1	-
24	Sikkim	-	-	-	Singtam	-
25	Tamil Nadu	-	Chennai-1	Chennai-14 Madurai-1 Salem-1 Hosur-1	Coimbatore-1, Chennai-1 Madurai-1 Salem-1 Thanjavur-1 Tirunelveli-1	Chennai-1, Thanjavur-1
26	Telangana	Hyderabad-1	-	Hyderabad-9	-	Hyderabad-3
27	Tripura	-	Agartala-1	-	Agartala-1	-
28	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow-1 Jhansi-1	Prayagraj-1 Ghaziabad-1 Lucknow-1	Ghaziabad-2 Noida-2	Agra-1 Varanasi-1 Meerut-1 Gorakhpur-1	Ghaziabad-1, Lucknow-1
29	Uttarakhand	-	-	Roorkee -1	Rudrapur-1	-
30	West Bengal	-	Kolkata-3	Kolkata-4	Kolkata-1	Kolkata-1
	Total	12	19	148	62	18

State/UT-wise details of fund released under Central Sector Scheme for upgradation of State labs

S. No.	State Food Testing Laboratories	Amount Released (in crore)		
		2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
1	Andhra Pradesh (Vishakhapatnam)	0.50	0.00	0.00
2	Assam (Guwahati)	0.50	3.50	3.20
3	Bihar (Patna)	0.00	0.00	4.00
4	Chhatishgarh (Raipur)	0.00	0.35	8.60
5	Delhi	0.50	4.25	4.70
6	Goa (Bambolim)	0.50	4.25	4.70
7	Gujarat (Vadodara)	0.50	0.35	9.05
8	Gujarat (Rajkot)	0.00	0.00	0.50
9	Haryana (Chandigarh)	0.50	0.00	8.45
10	Himachal Pradesh (Kandghat)	0.50	0.00	0.00
11	J & K (Jammu)	0.50	6.00	0.00
12	J & K (Srinagar)	0.00	6.50	0.00
13	Jharkhand (Ranchi)	0.00	0.00	5.50
14	Karnataka (Banglore)	0.50	8.50	0.50
15	Karnataka (Mysore)	0.00	0.00	5.00
16	Kerala(Kozhikode)	0.50	8.50	0.50
17	Kerala(Thiruvananthapuram)	0.00	0.00	0.50
18	Madhya Pradesh (Bhopal)	0.50	0.00	8.45
19	Maharashtra (BKC, Mumbai)	0.50	0.00	0.00
20	Manipur (Lamphel)	0.00	0.50	8.45
21	Manipur(Moreh)	0.00	0.00	2.40
22	Meghalaya (Shilong)	0.00	0.50	8.95
23	Nagaland (Kohima)	0.50	2.00	6.95
24	Odisha (Bhubaneshwar)	0.50	0.00	8.45
25	Puducherry (Gorimedu)	0.00	0.00	0.50
26	Punjab (Kharar)	0.50	3.50	1.25
27	Rajasthan (Jodhpur)	0.00	0.00	7.20
28	Rajasthan (Udaipur)	0.00	0.00	7.20
29	Rajastjam (Jaipur)	0.00	0.00	0.50
30	Sikkim (Singtam)	0.00	0.00	5.00
31	Tamil Nadu (Chennai)	0.50	6.00	0.50
32	Tamil Nadu (Madurai)	0.00	0.00	7.20
33	Telangana (Hyderabad)	0.00	2.50	6.95
34	Uttar Pradesh (Lucknow)	0.50	2.00	5.95
35	Uttarakhand (Rudrapur)	0.50	0.00	0.00
36	West Bengal (Kolkata)	0.50	8.50	0.50
37	Tripura	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total		9.50	67.70	141.60