

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3226
TO BE ANSWERED ON 8TH AUGUST, 2025**

FOOD ADULTERATION

3226. SHRI RAHUL KASWAN:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of increasing adulteration in food items such as milk, edible oil, spices and packaged food, posing serious health hazards to citizens;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to establish stricter quality checks, field-level inspections and punitive measures against manufacturers or sellers involved in such adulteration?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY
WELFARE
(SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV)**

(a) to (c): Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) is fully committed to ensure the availability of safe food to the consumers across the country. In order to achieve the mandate FSSAI conducts regular surveillance, monitoring, inspection and random sampling of various food products. These are conducted throughout the year by the officials of Food Safety Departments of the respective States/ UTs and Regional offices of FSSAI to check compliance with the quality and safety parameters and other requirements as laid down under Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, and Regulations made thereunder.

FSSAI has started Risk Based Inspections System (RBIS) wherein inspections planned on the risk associated with the Food Businesses. This enables the authorities to carry out inspections of high risk food categories such as milk and milk products, prepared food etc. in more intensive manner.

Annual Third Party Audit has been made mandatory for the Manufacturers/Processors holding Central License for the high risk categories. Enforcement officials have been assigned monthly minimum targets for enforcement sampling,

surveillance sampling and inspections.

FSSAI has notified 244 National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL) for the testing of food samples, which are collected by Food Safety Officers (FSOs) during inspections and routine checks. In addition, 22 Referral Food Laboratories analyse the appellate samples. To bridge the gap in testing capabilities and extend outreach for on-the-spot food testing in the remote areas, 305 Mobile Food Testing Laboratories (MFTLs) have been procured & deployed by State/UTs.

In cases, where the food samples are found non-conforming, penal actions are initiated against the defaulting Food Business Operators (FBOs) as per the provisions of FSS Act 2006, Rules and Regulations made thereunder which includes punitive measure viz. Adjudication & Prosecution which are judicial in nature, wherein penalty/punishment are imposed as per chapter IX of the FSS Act, 2006.
