

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

**RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.285  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 1<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER, 2015**

**PRESENCE OF PROHIBITED ELEMENTS IN SWEETS**

**285. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:**

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that sweets sold during various occasions like Diwali contained prohibited elements and there is no mechanism for proper checking and sampling in the country;
- (b) if so, how many samples were picked up on the occasion of Diwali in various parts of the country; and
- (c) whether these samples were analysed and action taken against the sweet vendors and stores in the country, if so, the details thereof?

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

- (a): Enforcement of the provisions of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 and regulations thereunder is primarily the responsibility of State/UT Governments. A Surveillance Plan for States has been prepared by a Working Group of Food Safety Commissioners taking into account various parameters including consumption pattern for cultural/festival occasions. The States are at liberty to modify it as per local requirements and take action accordingly to prevent food adulteration
- (b): No separate data regarding samples picked up on the occasion of Diwali is maintained centrally by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India.
- (c): Does not arise.