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

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2372 TO BE ANSWERED ON 6TH DECEMBER, 2016

CHECKING OF FOODGRAINS AND VEGETABLES QUALITY

2372. SHRI SANTIUSE KUJUR:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that in our Country all the food grains, vegetables, chicken, fish and other food items which are required for human survival are poisonous;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government thereto; and

(c) whether Government has any monitoring mechanism in place to ensure proper check up at the time of these food items' arrival in the market?

ANSWER THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE)

(a): No.

(b): Does not arise.

(c): The Government of India has enacted the Food Safety and Standards (FSS) Act, 2006. Its implementation and enforcement primarily rests with the State/UT Governments. The FSS Act, 2006 provides for a detailed administrative set up at State/UT level for carrying out enforcement activities. These include posts of Food Safety Commissioners, Designated Officers, Adjudicating officers, Food Safety Officers, Food Analysts, etc. All States/UTs have taken steps to put in place the requisite Administrative set up. Regular surveillance, monitoring, inspection and random sampling of food products is undertaken by the officials of Food Safety Departments of the respective States/UTs to check compliance with the standards laid down under FSS Act, 2006, and regulations made. In cases, where the food samples are found to be non-conforming, recourse is taken to penal provisions under Chapter IX of the FSS Act, 2006.