

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION  
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2781**

TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.03.2023

**HEFTY PRICES FOR BOTTLED MINERAL WATER**

2781. SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact the companies charge hefty prices for bottled mineral water, particularly in malls, airports and hotels, whereas water should be considered as a basic necessity of human life;
- (b) whether Government has taken any measures to regulate the uncontrolled price of bottled water; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE, CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

(a) to (c) : To protect the interest of consumers, Rule 18(2) of the Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 2011 provide that commodities in packaged form cannot be sold at a price higher than MRP. Section 36 of the Legal Metrology Act, 2009 provides for penalty provisions in case of violation of the provisions of the Act and the provisions of the Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 2011.

Under the provisions of the Legal Metrology Act, 2009 and the Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 2011 State Governments are empowered to take action against selling of packaged commodities at the price higher than MRP in various States/ UTs, as the enforcement of weights and measures is done by the State Governments.

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