

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2632

TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.08.2023

TESTING AND ANALYSIS OF FOOD ITEMS

2632. DR. SONAL MANSINGH

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

- (a) the steps taken by Government for strict testing and analysis of food items; and
- (b) the quality parameters for food stored in food godowns and the efforts made by the food business operators to ensure their compliance, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

(a) : Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), a statutory body established under the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India has developed a surveillance system that helps to collect the data regarding the safety and quality of food and ensures that the food supplied in the market is safe and wholesome. The surveillance activities identify hotspots of food safety non-compliances and adulteration. Various steps taken in this regard are as under:-

1. Surveillance Activity
2. Food Testing Ecosystem
3. Ensuring Credibility of Testing
4. Digitalization of testing network
5. Mobile Food Testing laboratory
6. Strengthening of Food Testing Labs(SoFTeL) Scheme
7. Organic Food Testing facility
8. Setting up of Microbiology Laboratory
9. Developing skilled manpower
10. Rapid Analytical Food Testing (RAFT) scheme
11. Development of Testing Infrastructure for Fortified Foods
12. Ensure Food Safety Through Surveillance

Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) under its Conformity Assessment Scheme undertake tests in 07 BIS Labs against the corresponding Indian Standards published. BIS also has 80 recognised / empanelled laboratories for carrying out conformity assessment tests.

(b) : FSSAI through State/UTs and its regional offices conduct regular surveillance, monitoring, inspection and random sampling of food products to check compliance of the standards laid down under Food Safety and Standards Act 2006, Rules and Regulations made thereunder. In cases where the food samples are found to be non-conforming, penal action has been initiated against the defaulting Food Business Operators as per provisions of FSS Act, Rules and Regulations made thereunder including Schedule IV of FSS (Licensing and Registration of Food Businesses) Regulation, 2011.

For storage of foodgrains, BIS has published following Indian Standards:

- i) IS 6151 (Part 2):1971 'Storage management code: Part 2 General care in handling and storage of agricultural produce and inputs' and
- ii) IS 6151(Part 3): 1976 Storage management code: Part 3 specific care in handling and storage of agricultural produce and inputs

These standards prescribe general and specific care in handling, transportation, receipt and issue; and storage of agricultural produce. Safe limit of moisture content, stack height for storage are also specified in the standard.

A number of Indian Standards prescribe harvesting conditions, storage structures, storage conditions, ripening conditions and transportation codes for various fruits and vegetables. List of Indian Standards published in this area is attached at **Annexure**.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b) OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.2632 FOR 11.08.2023 REGARDING TESTING AND ANALYSIS OF FOOD ITEMS.

Sl. No.	IS No.	Title
1.	IS 7192:2022	Guide for storage of citrus fruits
2.	IS 7730:2022	Guide for storage of pears
3.	IS 7731:2021	Guide for storage of peaches
4.	IS 9304 : 2022	Guide for storage and ripening of mangoes
5.	IS 9311:2021	Guide to storage of onions
6.	IS 16119:2013 / ISO 7562 : 1990	Potatoes - Guidelines for storage in artificially ventilated stores
7.	IS 16120:2013 / ISO 5525: 1986	Potatoes - Storage in the open (In Clamps)

Indian Standards related to 'Cold Storage and Transport Services' are as under:

Sl. No.	IS No.	Title
1.	IS 6028:2002 / ISO 931:1980	Green bananas - Guide to storage and transport (Second Revision)
2.	<u>IS 6669: 2001 / ISO 1212:1995</u>	Apples - Guide to cold storage (First Revision)
3.	<u>IS 6670: 2018</u>	Storage of potatoes - Guidelines (First Revision)
4.	<u>IS 7191: 2001 / ISO 5524:1991</u>	Tomatoes - Guide to cold storage and refrigerated transport (First Revision)
5.	<u>IS 7252: 2013 / ISO 2169: 1981</u>	Fruits and vegetables - Physical conditions in cold stores - Definitions and measurement (First Revision)
6.	<u>IS 9303: 2021</u>	Guide for cold storage of table grapes
7.	<u>IS 11966: 1997 / ISO 6663:1995</u>	Garlic - Cold storage (First Revision)
8.	<u>IS 15691: 2006</u>	Guidelines for storage and transportation of bamboo shoot
9.	<u>IS 16118: 2013 / ISO 6665 : 1983</u>	Strawberries - Guide to cold storage
