

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

**RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2598  
ANSWERED ON 18.12.2024**

**Contaminated food in Central Universities**

**2598 Shri Haris Beeran:**

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken any step to control the incidents of serving contaminated food in Central Universities and other Government institutions;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action taken by Government in this regard?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  
(DR. SUKANTA MAJUMDAR)**

(a) to (c): University Grants Commission (UGC) under the Ministry of Education has issued advisories in 2016, 2018 and 2024 to all the Central Universities, emphasizing the prohibition of the sale of unhealthy foods in educational institutions. These advisories also promote the availability of healthy food options in canteens across these institutions. The other Central Government Institutions and their regulatory bodies issue similar directions from time to time.

In hostels of these institutions, mess committees of students and wardens monitor food quality, oversee the procurement of raw materials and supplies, and address students' concerns regularly. Additionally, measures are in place to ensure the quality of food provided by canteens and shops on campus, which include regular inspections and checks for food quality and hygiene.

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