

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

**RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2014  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10<sup>th</sup> MARCH, 2026**

**FOOD REGULATORY ECOSYSTEM IN THE COUNTRY**

**2014 # SHRI CHUNNILAL GARASIYA:**

**SHRI BABUBHAI JESANGBHAI DESAI:**

**SHRI AMAR PAL MAURYA:**

**SHRI NARAYANA KORAGAPPA:**

**SHRI SADANAND MHALU SHET TANAVADE:**

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

- (a) the measures taken by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) in the last five years to strengthen the food regulatory ecosystem in the country;
- (b) whether the measures taken are effective in curbing food adulteration in the country;
- (c) if so, the data in support showing the trend of incidences of food adulteration;
- (d) whether laboratory infrastructure of the country has been enhanced effectively; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY  
WELFARE  
(SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV)**

(a) to (e): Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) is mandated to lay down science based standards for articles of food and to regulate their manufacture, storage, distribution, sale and import to ensure availability of safe and wholesome food for human consumption. The implementation and enforcement of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 is a shared responsibility between the Central and State Governments.

Regular surveillance drives, monitoring, regulatory inspection and random sampling of various food products are conducted throughout the year by the officials of Food Safety Departments of the respective States/ UTs and Regional offices of FSSAI to check

compliance with the quality and safety parameters in food products as laid down under Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, and Regulations made thereunder. If any violations are observed, strict regulatory actions have been enforced against the offenders in accordance with the provisions of FSS Act. Details of number of Food Samples tested for last 5 Years.

<b>Details of number of Food Samples tested for last 5 Years.</b>		
<b>Year</b>	<b>No. of Samples Analysed</b>	<b>No. of Samples found non-conforming</b>
2024-25	170535	34388
2023-24	170513	33808
2022-23	1,77,511	44,626
2021-22	1,44,345	32,934
2020-21	1,07,829	28,347

FSSAI has established a network of food testing laboratories across India for the analysis of food to ensure the compliance with the quality and safety standards. As on date, there are 252 National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL) notified for analysis of food samples and 24 Referral Food Laboratories for the analysis of appellate samples.

Further, to strengthen the food testing infrastructure in States & UTs, FSSAI has provided technical & financial assistance to the States/UTs under the scheme - "Strengthening of Food Testing System in the Country Including provision of Mobile Food Testing Labs" (SoFTeL). Under the Scheme, 47 State food testing laboratories have been upgraded & 34 microbiology labs have been set up in the area of food safety & quality parameters. To bridge the gap in testing capabilities and extend outreach for on-the-spot food testing in the remote areas, where the laboratory infrastructures are lacking, State/UTs have deployed Mobile Food Testing Laboratories (MFTLs). So far, 305 MFTLs have been procured & deployed by States/UTs against the funds provided by FSSAI for 541 MFTLs.

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