

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1663
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10TH MARCH, 2017**

ADULTERATION IN SILVER LEAF

1663. DR. K. GOPAL:

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

(a) whether the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has banned the use of any material of animal origin in silver leaf commonly used in confectionaries and sweets decorations and also in paan and packaged supari;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is aware that there were also concerns that the silver leaf contained heavy metal traces such as nickel, lead, chromium and cadmium which are harmful for health; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) & (b): Yes. Standards of Silver Leaf have been revised and notified on 15th July, 2016 which prescribes that silver leaf cannot be manufactured using any material of animal origin at any stage. The aforesaid provision will come into force on or after 1st August, 2017.

(c) & (d): Maximum permissible limits of lead and cadmium for non specified food have been prescribed under the Food Safety and Standards (Contaminants, Toxins and Residues) Regulations, 2011. These are applicable for Silver Leaf also. No limit has been specified for Nickel and Chromium. The applicable standards are enforced by the State Food Safety Commissioners and other concerned officers in various States/UTs.

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