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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4918 TO BE ANSWERED ON 31ST MARCH, 2017

ADULTERATION IN MUSTARD OIL

4918. SHRIMATI RAMA DEVI:

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

(a) whether adulterated mustard oil is being sold in the market;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) the number of cases of adulteration in mustard oil detected during the last three years, Statewise and the action taken by the Government against the persons involved in adulteration so far; and

(d) whether the Government does not take any special action in this regard due to which the quantity of adulteration in the mustard oil is increasing and if so, the reasons therefor?

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

(a) & (b): Cases of adulteration in food products including edible oil, have come to the notice of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI). The implementation and enforcement of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, Rules and Regulations thereunder primarily rests with the State/UT Governments. Regular surveillance, monitoring, inspection and random sampling of food products are undertaken by the officials of Food Safety Departments of the respective States/ UTs to check compliance with standards laid down under FSS Act and regulations thereunder. In cases, where food samples are found to be non-conforming, recourse is taken to penal provisions under Chapter IX of the FSS Act.

(c): No separate data in respect of adulteration of mustard oil is maintained centrally by the FSSAI.

(d): The FSSAI has developed a Surveillance Plan and shared the same with the State/ UT Governments to ensure safe and wholesome food for consumers. It is an indicative and suggestive Surveillance Plan, with adequate flexibility keeping in view the local conditions and environment. The States conduct surveillance of different food commodities and take legal action wherever there is an infringement of the law.