

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 325
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18TH JULY, 2017

PLASTIC RICE AND SUGAR

325. SHRI SHIVKUMAR UDASI:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there were videos on social networking platforms about rice and sugar being made of plastic, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Department of Food and Public Distribution, Government of India is collecting samples of rice and sugar from various parts of country, if so, details thereof; and
- (c) whether the Government would take action against the manufacturers/producers/importers/sellers of plastic rice and sugar, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE FOR CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)

(a): Yes, Madam. However, the matter has been taken up with the State Governments of Kerala and Gujarat on the basis of International Food Safety Authorities Network (INFOSAN) alert. The concerned State Governments have confirmed that no incidence of plastic rice has been reported in the respective States.

(b): Random sampling and testing of food products, including Rice and Sugar, is done by the Officials of Food Safety Departments of the respective States/UTs to check compliance of the standards laid down under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, Rules and Regulations made there under. In cases where the food samples are found to be non-conforming, recourse is taken to penal provisions under Chapter IX of the FSS Act, 2006. Based on information made available by the State/UT Governments, details of food samples received, analysed, found non-conforming and action taken during the year 2016-17 is at Annexure-I .

(c): No specific case of presence of plastic rice and sugar has been detected in the country. However, under the provisions of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986, one can approach Consumer Fora for redressal in case of defective products and deficiency in service.

ANNEXURE-I

ANNEX REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION
NO 325 TO BE ANSWERED ON 18th JULY, 2017 IN LOK SABHA.

Annual Public Laboratory Testing Report for the year 2016-2017								
Sr. No	Name of the State/ U.T.	Total No. of samples received	No. of Samples Analysed	No. of Samples found adulterated and Misbranded	No. of Cases Launched		No. of Convictions/ Penalties	
					Criminal	Civil	Convictions	Penalties/ Amount raised in Rupees
1.	A & N Islands*							
2.	Andhra Pradesh*							
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	302	302	10	1	8	0	12/Rs. 348400
4.	Assam	536	526	67	3	23	0	2/Rs. 30000
5.	Bihar	2507	2427	42	3	30	6	Rs. 73000
6.	Chandigarh	251	251	19	2	14	1	Rs. 300000
7.	Chhattisgarh	1693	1693	425				
8.	Dadra & N.H	44	44	3		3		
9.	Daman & Diu*							
10.	Delhi	1155	1152	120	9	98	106	68/Rs. 3741500
11.	Goa	920	874	111		5	1	1/ Rs. 20000
12.	Gujarat	11364	11329	839	46	513	2	Rs. 16681000
13.	Haryana	2041	2033	188	18	243	14	71/ Rs. 2982170
14.	Himachal Pradesh	351	315	57		35	23	Rs. 195000
15.	Jammu & Kashmir*							
16.	Jharkhand*							
17.	Karnataka	2837	2837	341	26	112		112/ Rs. 2195900
18.	Kerala*							
19.	Lakshadweep*							
20.	Madhya Pradesh	5075	5461	609	60	483	26	252/ Rs. 7427700
21.	Maharashtra							
22.	Manipur	207	207	30	0	30	0	5/ Rs. 520000
23.	Meghalaya	47	43	3				
24.	Mizoram	26	20	2	0	0	0	
25.	Nagaland*							
26.	Odisha*							
27.	Puducherry	495	495	32	0	0	0	
28.	Punjab	4431	4054	2240	56	1442		Rs. 1410921
29.	Rajasthan*							
30.	Sikkim*							
31.	Tamil Nadu	4080	3022	970	244	617	109	442/ Rs. 7898500
32.	Telangana							
33.	Tripura	173	173	12	0	6	0	
34.	Uttar Pradesh*							
35.	Uttarakhand	749	676	119	3	199		19/ Rs. 1004000
36.	West Bengal*							
	Total:	39284	37934	6239	471	3861	288	984/ Rs.4,48,28,091

Note: Annual Report of the States* are awaited.

Source: States/UTs