

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1359
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22ND DECEMBER, 2017**

CORRUPTION IN FSSAI

1359. SHRI GANESH SINGH:

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of reported alleged cases of corruption, malpractices and irregularities in Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI);
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the number of cases registered and action taken against erring officials during the last three years and the current year, State/ UT-wise;
- (c) the number and details of notified Food Testing Laboratories (FTLs) operating under the FSSAI, State/UT-wise;
- (d) whether the existing FTLs are fully equipped with international standards to meet the demands of the Indian industry and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to bring transparency in the functioning of FSSAI?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)**

- (a): Yes, Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has taken note of the cases wherein instances of corruption, malpractices and irregularities have been reported.
- (b): The details of cases registered and action taken against erring officials during the last three years and current year are as under:-
- One case of corruption/CBI trap has been registered and the Competent Authority of FSSAI has already granted prosecution sanction against the involved FSSAI official
 - In one case the Competent Authority has proposed institution of major penalty proceedings.
 - In one case the Competent Authority has decided for institution of minor penalty proceedings. Charge sheet has been issued on 24.11.2017.
 - In one case of an officer who was on deputation with FSSAI, for the pointed out irregularities by a Departmental Committee, the Competent Authority of FSSAI has taken a decision to institute Disciplinary action against him. Recommendations has been made by FSSAI to parent organization of the said officer.

In another case of an officer who was on deputation and has since been repatriated to his parent organization, FSSAI has recommended to the Disciplinary Authority of the officer in his parent organization to charge sheet him for the pointed out irregularities during his deputation tenure in FSSAI.

(c): There are 160 Food Testing Laboratories in the country notified under the Food Safety and Standards (FSS) Act, 2006 of FSSAI. Out of these 160 laboratories:

- 142 laboratories are NABL accredited laboratories notified by FSSAI under Section 43(1) of FSS Act, 2006
- 18 laboratories are Referral Laboratories notified by FSSAI under Section 43(2) of FSS Act, 2006 for the purpose of referral testing.

State/UT-wise details of FSSAI notified Laboratories is at Annexure. In addition to FSSAI notified laboratories, there are 72 State/Public Laboratories under various State/UT Governments.

(d): FSSAI notifies only those food testing laboratories which are compliant to ISO 17025 which is an International Standard for accreditation of testing laboratories. These laboratories rely upon the standards for various food product categories prescribed in Food Safety and Standards Regulations, 2011. FSSAI Manuals of Methods of Analysis & Testing of various foods in food processing industries adopting validated methods from different international agencies are available and continuously adopted.

(e): To obviate any scope of corruption, malpractices and irregularities, systems have been developed for on-line working of FSSAI, so that human interface could be reduced to the minimum. Further, all the information relevant to Food Business Operators and other stake holders is available on the website of FSSAI i.e. www.fssai.gov.in to facilitate them and to ensure transparency and hassle free environment.

Annexure

State/UT- wise Food Laboratories and Referral laboratories notified under Food Safety and Standards Act,2006

Sr No.	State/UT	Number of notified Referral Food Laboratories	Number of notified Food Laboratories by FSSAI
1.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	-	-
2.	Andhra Pradesh	1	3
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-
4.	Assam	-	-
5.	Bihar	-	-
6.	Chhattisgarh	-	-
7.	Chandigarh	-	-
8.	Dadra Nagar Haveli	-	-
9.	Daman & Diu	-	1
10.	Delhi	-	19
11.	Goa	-	1
12.	Gujarat	1	8
13.	Haryana	-	12
14.	Himachal Pradesh	-	1
15.	Jammu & Kashmir	1	-
16.	Jharkhand	-	1
17.	Karnataka	2	12
18.	Kerala	2	9
19.	Lakswadweep	-	-
20.	Madhya Pradesh	-	6
21.	Maharashtra	3	23
22.	Manipur	-	-
23.	Meghalaya	-	-
24.	Mizoram	-	-
25.	Nagaland	-	-
26.	Odisha	-	1
27.	Puducherry	-	-
28.	Punjab	-	3
29.	Rajasthan	-	6
30.	Sikkim	-	-
31.	Tamil Nadu	2	16
32.	Telangana	3	7
33.	Tripura	-	-
34.	Uttar Pradesh	2	7
35.	Uttarakhand	-	1
36.	West Bengal	1	5
	Total	18	142