

Government of India
Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
Department of Consumer Affairs

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2439
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.01.2018

BIS FOR PACKAGED DRINKING WATER

2439. SHRI KANWAR SINGH TANWAR:

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

- (a) whether it is true that packaged drinking water units/plants are mushrooming without adhering to the standards prescribed by Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the number of such units/plants reported;
- (c) the action taken by the Government against these units/plants; and
- (d) the effective monitoring mechanism adopted or being adopted by the Government to ensure availability of safe packaged drinking water?

ANSWER

उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण राज्य मंत्री
(श्री सी. आर. चौधरी)

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

(a) to (d) : Standards for Packaged Mineral Water and Packaged Drinking Water (other than mineral water) are covered under sub-regulations 2.10.7 and 2.10.8 of Food Safety & Standards (Food Products & Food Additives) Regulations, 2011 respectively. Compliance to these standards is mandatory for any packaged drinking water manufacturer in the country. These products are also under mandatory certification of Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS).

Enforcement of provisions of Food Safety and Standards Act, Rules and Regulations made thereunder primarily rests with the States/Union Territories. Regular surveillance, monitoring, inspection and random sampling of food products is being done by the Officials of the Food Safety Departments of the respective States /UTs to ensure compliance with the norms and standards laid down under FSS Act, 2006 and Rules and Regulations made thereunder.

As and when cases of manufacture and sale of packaged mineral water/drinking water by unlicensed units /units without BIS certification come to the notice of FSSAI, Commissioners of Food Safety of States/UTs are advised to take action against the erring Food Business Operators.

As per the information available with FSSAI from the State/UT Governments, the details of samples of Packaged Drinking Water /Mineral Water collected, tested, found non-conforming and action taken during the year 2016-17 is as under:

Total no. of samples taken	No. of Samples Analysed	No of Samples found non-conforming	No. of cases launched	No. of conviction/ Penalties
743	697	224	131	33/40

In such cases BIS also conducts investigations and raids and initiates legal prosecution in the Court of Law.

During the year 2017-18, 25 raids were conducted by BIS on packaged drinking water units and 11 cases have been decided in various Courts of Law of which conviction has happened in 10 cases.
