

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4092
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.03.2018**

PLASTIC IN FOOD ITEMS

4092. SHRI SUBHASH CHANDRA BAHERIA:
(OIH)

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

- (a) whether any complaints have been received by the Ministry from various areas of the country regarding the rice, snacks, waters and other food items made out of plastic;
- (b) if so, the details of the action taken in this regard;
- (c) the stringent steps being taken by the Government to check supply of such harmful adulterated food items; and
- (d) the number of such cases that came to light during the last three years and the details of action taken in this regard?

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) : Yes, Madam. National Consumer Helpline(NCH) under the Department of Consumer Affairs has received complaints related to plastic rice, eggs and plastic flour.

(b) : NCH have advised the complainants to address their complaints to the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India(FSSAI). NCH has been forwarding the complaints alongwith their advice to FSSAI directly through INGRAM portal since November, 2016.

In addition, FSSAI had lifted samples of food and inspected the premises of FBOs of several states/UTs like Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Chandigarh, Delhi, Gujarat, Goa etc. However, no such incidence of food products made out of plastic has been detected.

(c) : The enforcement of FSS Act, 2006, Rules and Regulations made thereunder primarily rests with the State/UT Governments. Regular random sampling and testing of food products is done by the officials of Food Safety Departments of the respective States/UTs to check adulteration in food and in case where the food samples are found to be non-conforming, recourse is taken to penal provisions under Chapter IX of the FSS Act, 2006.

(d) : The details of complaints received in NCH during last financial year 2016-17 and current financial year till February, 2018 is given below. In the year 2015-16, no complaint was reported at NCH regarding items made out of plastic.

Financial Year	Plastic Eggs	Plastic rice	Plastic rice and eggs both	Plastic flour (Atta)	Number of Complaints
Apr 2016-Mar 2017	2	3	0	0	5
Apr 2017-Feb 2018	19	21	2	18	60
Total complaints	21	24	2	18	65

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