

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1617
TO BE ANSWERED ON 16th DECEMBER, 2022**

FOOD SAFETY

1617. SHRI PALLAB LOCHAN DAS

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

- (a) the details of the central assistance provided to Assam Government to set up food testing infrastructure and improvement of manpower in the last seven years;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the Government has taken several initiatives regarding food safety and consumer empowerment; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY
WELFARE
(DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR)**

(a) to (c): Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has informed that it had provided following financial assistance for the strengthening of State Public Health Laboratory, Guwahati:-

- i. Rs 12.37 crore from FY 2016-17 to 2022-23, under the Central Sector Scheme (CSS) for “Strengthening of Food Testing System in the Country Including Provision of Mobile Food Testing Labs”.
- ii. Rs 4.58 crore for FY 21-22 & 22-23, under the annual Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the state.

Further, FSSAI has provided assistance in the form of mobile food testing laboratories, Raptor Diagnostic Reader, Frying Oil Monitor, Compact Cabinets, Vehicle Mounted Mobile Freezer Units, portable chill boxes and backpack style box to the State of Assam. FSSAI has also imparted Capacity building of laboratory personnel.

Under Eat Right India FSSAI has increased awareness of consumers towards healthy, safe and sustainable eating habits. Funds have been provided to States under MoU for various certification programmes and to conduct IEC activities through media for raising consumer awareness.

FSSAI has an online grievance portal on Food Safety Compliance System (FoSCoS) namely ‘Food Safety Connect’ where a consumer can register complaint relating to the food articles. Further, Food Business Operators (FBOs) are required to mandatorily display License / Registration number on the invoices/ sale or cash receipts enabling consumers to make informed choices while making food purchase.

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