GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2166 TO BE ANSWERED ON 20th DECEMBER, 2022

TRADING OF ADULTERATED MILK

2166. SHRI ARJUN SINGH:

Will the Minister of FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING

मत्स्यपालन, पशुपालन और डेयरी मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the trade of adulterated milk is on rise in the country and if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) if not, the extent to which adequate supply of milk is being maintained despite low production of milk in the country; and

(c) the details of the steps being taken by the Government to check adulterated milk trade in the country?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)

(a) There is no information in the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying that the trade in adulterated milk is on the rise in the country.

Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has informed that, whenever any instance/ complaint regarding sale of substandard and adulterated milk into the market is brought to the notice of FSSAI, strict action including seizure and destroying the adulterated milk is taken by the officials of FSSAI and State Food Administrations. It is also informed that the implementation and enforcement of FSS Act 2006, Rules and Regulations made thereunder primarily lies with State/UT Governments. There is provision for regular surveillance, monitoring, inspection and sampling of food products including milk by Food Safety Officers of States/UTs. Penal action has been initiated against the defaulting Food Business Operators (FBOs) as per the provisions of FSS Act 2006, Rules and Regulations made thereunder. Further, special enforcement drives are also carried out by the States/UTs to ensure availability of safe and un-adulterated milk and milk products to the consumer especially during festive seasons.

(b) Milk Production in the country is sufficient to meet the domestic demand. Milk production in the country during 2021-22 (provisional) was 221.06 Million Metric Ton (MMT) with per capita availability of 444 gram/day.

(c) Major steps initiated by the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying (DAHD), Government of India and FSSAI to check adulterated milk trade in the country and to ensure supply of safe and good quality milk are as under:

- i. DAHD is implementing Dairy Development schemes namely: National Programme for Dairy Development (NPDD) and Dairy Processing and Infrastructure Development Fund across the country to create necessary infrastructure for chilling, processing & testing of milk and milk products through dairy cooperatives, milk producer companies etc.
- ii. NPDD has been restructured/realigned in July 2021 and will continue to be implemented from 2021-22 to 2025-26. Component A of the scheme focuses primarily towards creating/strengthening of infrastructure for quality milk testing equipment as well as primary chilling facilities. Under the scheme, installation of 33,688 Automatic Milk Collection Units with Milk Analysers, installation of 9683 Electronic Milk Adulteration Testing Machines, Strengthening of 239 District/Regional Level Dairy Plant Laboratories with adulteration testing equipment, establishment of 15 State Central Laboratories etc. have been approved.
- iii. A uniform logo under the Confirmatory Assessment Scheme was formed by DAHD and Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) in consultation with various stakeholders including NDDB, featuring the earlier respective logos BIS-ISI mark & NDDB-Quality Mark and Kamdhenu Cow. This has brought 'Product–Food Safety Management System–Process' certification under one umbrella.
- iv. In order to address the issue of adulteration in food products including milk and the gaps in the food safety eco-system of States/ UTs and to promote the culture of safe and wholesome food through pooling of technical knowledge and best practices, as a shared responsibility, FSSAI has signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with States/UTs for strengthening of Food Safety Eco-system in the country by providing technical and financial support.
- v. There is network of food testing laboratories both under Public and Private Sectors recognized by FSSAI for testing of food at primary & appellate levels to check the parameters prescribed under FSS Act, 2006, Rules and Regulations made there under.
- vi. Food Safety on Wheels (FSW) are also placed from time to time in prominent markets and/or basis of specific intelligent input, so to ensure that milk and milk products are safe to consume and are strictly as per the prescribed milk standards.
- vii. FSSAI has approved Rapid Testing Kits for empowering the consumers to check for adulteration of milk in real-time.
- viii. FSSAI has prioritized inspection in accordance with Risk Based Inspection System (RBIS). States/UTs have been requested and advised to start carrying out inspections of FBOs' premises based on their risk based classification of license/registration data
- ix. FSSAI has apprised States/UTs through Central Advisory Committee Meetings, Video Conferencing and States visits to carry out targeted enforcement and surveillance drive to prevent adulteration in food products including milk.