

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 995
ANSWERED ON 08.12.2023

CHEMICAL ADULTERATION

995. SHRI D.M. KATHIR ANAND:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of the dangerous chemical adulteration and use of hazardous chemicals in farm and food products, food and protein supplements in the name of unknown foreign brands and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether any effective measures have been taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government to curb and control chemical adulteration and use of hazardous chemicals in farm and food products and to punish the perpetrators of crime;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has adopted various fool proof systems to identify and stop chemical adulteration in food products meant for human consumption; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the effective measures taken/proposed to be taken to raise awareness in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
(SHRI BHAGWANTH KHUBA)

(a) to (c): Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has notified the Food Safety and Standards (Contaminants toxins and Residues) Regulation, 2011 wherein the maximum residue limits/maximum limits for pesticides and contaminants on various food products have been prescribed based on detailed risk (safety) assessments. As per these regulations, the food products shall not exceed the prescribed maximum residue limits/maximum limits.

Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 specifies penalty provisions (including imprisonment) for Food Business Operators whose food articles are declared unsafe by virtue of violation of FSS (Contaminants, toxins and Residues) Regulations, 2011.

(d) To curb the malpractice of adulteration, the FSS (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Regulation, 2011 and FSS (Prohibition and Restriction on Sales) Regulations, 2011 prescribe compositional/quality parameters for food products and provisions prohibiting use of adulterants in various food products, respectively.

(e) FSSAI has uploaded various guidance notes on the website of FSSAI for awareness of general public, for example:

- i. Metal contamination in foods – potential risk and mitigation measure in 2020 for general awareness.
- ii. Aflatoxin - a key food safety concern
- iii. Issue of Formalin in Fish
- iv. Pesticides: Food Safety Concerns, Precautions and Safety Measures.
