

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3593
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.12.2019

COUNTERFEIT CONSUMER GOODS

3593. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH:

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

- (a) whether the Government is seized of the reports concerning widespread distribution and manufacture of fake food and other counterfeit consumer goods/products including cosmetics, apparel, electronics of reputed brands including Mother Dairy, Nescafe, Maggi, Amul, Apple, Surf Excel among others;
- (b) if so, whether any action plan is in place to counter and address the rising issue of fake food and counterfeit FMCG products that is causing significant health damage and financial losses to the public;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण राज्य मंत्री
(श्री दानवे रावसाहेब दादाराव)

THE MINISTER OF STATE
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB DADARAO)

(a) to (d) : Different Regulatory Bodies look into different products such as the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) is concerned with food products, the Central Drug Controller with medicines/cosmetics etc.

As informed by the FSSAI, on the direction of Hon'ble High Court of Delhi, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare held a meeting with Principal Secretaries (Health) of States and UTs on 23.10.2019 and various measures to be adopted to address the issue of counterfeiting of food products were highlighted.

Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO) has informed that as and when, issues regarding quality of cosmetics are received, actions are taken by CDSCO/concerned state licensing authority under the provisions of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and the rules made thereunder.

A three tier quasi-judicial mechanism has been set up under the provisions of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 to provide speedy and simple redressal to consumer disputes. They have been empowered to give relief of a specific nature and to award, compensation whenever appropriate to consumers. Penalties for non-compliance of orders given by the quasi-judicial bodies have also been provided in the Consumer Protection Act, 1986. When a complaint is upheld by a Consumer Forum, it can order the opposite party, inter alia, to remove the defect in the product, replace the goods with new goods, return the price to the consumer, to withdraw the hazardous goods from being offered for sale and to cease manufacture of hazardous goods.
