

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

**LOK SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO.264  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 6<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2021  
FAST TRACK COURT FOR FOOD ADULTERATION COMPLAINTS**

**\*264. SHRI A.K.P. CHINRAJ:**

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to set up fast track court, especially for resolving food adulteration cases/complaints and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of food adulteration cases, including those registered during 2011 that are pending for decision in the State of Tamil Nadu, particularly in the district of Namakkal along with the reasons therefor;
- (c) the number of cases of adulterated jaggery that have been reported from 2019 till date in the said district;
- (d) the details of the lab reports on the samples of adulterated jaggery collected during the said period; and
- (e) whether any punitive action has been taken against the manufacturers of such adulterated jaggery, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER  
THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
(SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA)**

(a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO. 264\* FOR 6<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2021**

(a): Food Safety Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has informed that Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 provides the framework, processes and mechanism for its enforcement and for adjudication of all violations under the FSS Act, including the cases of food adulteration.

Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 provides for penalties for infringement of the provisions of the Act. These include penalties/punishment for selling food not of the nature or substance or quality demanded; sub-standard food; misbranded food; misleading advertisement; food containing extraneous matter; failure to comply with the directions of the Food Safety officer; unhygienic or unsanitary processing or manufacturing of food; possessing adulterant; unsafe food etc. As prescribed in Section 68 of the FSS Act, 2006, offences with penalties/ fines are adjudicated by an Adjudicating Officer. The offences where imprisonment has been provided for (with or without fine) are to be tried by the Special Court set up in States/ UTs and where such Courts do not exist, these cases are tried in Criminal Courts of ordinary jurisdiction.

(b): As per Annual Report for the year 2020-21 received from Government of Tamil Nadu, total number of pending Civil (involving only fines) and Criminal Cases related to food products under FSS Act as on 31.03.2021 are as under:-

Civil Cases	1583
Criminal Cases	1800

In the District of Namakkal, 14 criminal cases are pending since 2011 as below:

Paramathi Judicial Magistrate Court-12 cases  
Namakkal Judicial Magistrate Court-2 cases.

(c) & (d) As per information received from the Government of Tamil Nadu, 33 samples of jaggery were lifted from 2019 till date in the District of Namakkal. Out of these, 14 samples were found conforming to the standards and 8 samples were found non-conforming. In these 8 non-conforming cases, 3 samples were found unsafe, 2 samples sub-standard and 3 samples misbranded. Cases have been filed in these 8 cases.

(e) Regular Inspections were conducted from 2011. Based on inspections, 90 enforcement samples were lifted. In addition 14 surveillance samples were also lifted. Based on food analysis report, legal actions have been initiated. 36 Adjudication cases were filed. 33 of these resulted in convictions where a penalty of Rs, 4,79,000 was levied. Besides, 14 criminal cases were also filed.

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