

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 505
TO BE ANSWERED ON 01.12.2021

FOOD WASTAGE INDEX

505. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:

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

- (a) whether United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) has recently released food wastage Index Report 2021;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the percentage of food wastage globally and in India in particular;
- (d) whether it is a fact that 56 kgs of food is wasted per person per year in Indian homes as compared to 19% in 2019; and
- (e) if so, the steps taken or being taken by the Government to restrict food wastage in the country?

ANSWER

उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण राज्य मंत्री
(श्री अश्विनी कुमार चौबे)

THE MINISTER OF STATE
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

(a) & (b) : Yes Sir, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) has released a Report titled “Food Wastage Index Report 2021” in the month of March, 2021.

(c) to (e) : As per this report, household food waste estimate in India is 50 Kg/ capita/year which is less than compared to many developed countries.

Government has carried out publicity campaigns through print and electronic media from time to time to sensitize people against Food Wastage. In addition, States/UTs were advised by Central Government to include a chapter on prevention of food wastage in the school syllabi in order to inculcate awareness among young students and sensitize them on the subject.

Further, Food Safety and Standards Authority of India has launched a social initiative known as “Save Food Share Food” to help promote donation of surplus food and reduce food waste by integrating various food distribution agencies and other stakeholders. FSSAI has also notified Food Safety and Standards (Recovery and Distribution of Surplus Food) Regulations, 2019 which specify the responsibilities of food donors and surplus food distribution organizations so that the donated food remains safe for human consumption.
