

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1622
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.07.2022

FOOD WASTE INDEX REPORT

1622. SHRI VISHNU DATT SHARMA:

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 has set some time bound target to improve the food wastage problem, as, according to “Food Waste Index Report 2021”, released by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), in India there happens wastage of 50 kg of food per person per year in India, which is one of the highest in the world;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

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) to (c) : As per report titled “Food Wastage Index Report 2021” released by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in the month of March, 2021, household food waste estimate in India is 50 Kg/capita/year which is less than that in many developed countries. Government has carried out publicity campaigns through the 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 amongst young students and sensitize them on the subject.

Further, Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) 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.
