

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4037
ANSWERED ON 19TH DECEMBER, 2024

NON-VEG CONTENTS IN PURE VEG FOOD ITEMS

4037. SHRI ANIL YESHWANT DESAI:

Will the Minister of *FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES* be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware about the use of non-veg contents in the processed food by considering as veg food items prepared and marketed by some established food/drink manufacturers;
- (b) if so, the punitive action taken against such big brands for serving non-veg contents in some pure veg food items;
- (c) whether such incidents have also taken place in Airlines and Railways in the past and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the legal action taken by the Government suo moto in such cases?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES
(SHRI RAVNEET SINGH)

(a) & (b). Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) was established under Ministry of Health and Family Welfare as per provisions contained in the Food Safety and Standards Act 2006 (i.e. FSS Act 2006) and it has been mandated for laying down science based standards for articles of food and to regulate their manufacture, storage, distribution, sale and import to ensure availability of safe and wholesome food for human consumption.

As per information shared by FSSAI, no incident of non veg content in the pre-packaged veg food has been reported to them. Further, the declaration regarding Veg or Non veg for packaged food products has been specified by FSSAI under sub-regulation 5(4) of their Food Safety and Standards (Labelling & Display) Regulations, 2011. On the other hand, the declaration regarding Veg or Non veg has also been specified by them under sub-regulation 9(2)(b) of their Food Safety and Standards (Labelling & Display) Regulations, 2011 for 'Display of information in food service establishments'. All Food Business Operators (FBOs) are mandatorily required to follow the regulations notified by FSSAI from time to time. In cases of non-compliance to the statutory requirements as above, penal action is initiated against the defaulting FBOs as per the provisions for Offences & Penalties laid under FSS Act, 2006.

(c) & (d). As per information received from FSSAI, no such information is available with them. Similarly, M/o Civil Aviation has also intimated that as per information received from Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) and Airlines, no such incidents have taken place in the recent past. Further, the Railway Board under Ministry of Railways, Government of India have also informed that as per available records, no such case has been reported to IRCTC in the past.
