

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES
LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *461
ANSWERED ON 03RD APRIL, 2025

MANUFACTURING/SALE OF FAKE FOOD PRODUCTS

***461. SMT. MALVIKA DEVI:**

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

- (a) the details of the steps taken/being taken by the Government to ensure that the organic way of growing vegetables is encouraged and used by the industries to maintain food quality;
- (b) the details of the steps taken/being taken by the Government to ensure that the exact amount of sugar content is mentioned in processed foods along with the type of sugar present in the specific product;
- (c) the details of the steps taken by the Government against the companies that are manufacturing fake products similar to the actual products made by big companies and sold in rural areas and small villages; and
- (d) the details of the punitive action taken by the Government along with the number of companies penalized in this regard during the last year and the current year?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES
(SHRI CHIRAG PASWAN)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *461 FOR ANSWER ON 03RD APRIL, 2025 REGARDING
“MANUFACTURING/SALE OF FAKE FOOD PRODUCTS”.**

(a): Government is promoting organic farming and growing all agricultural and horticulture crops including vegetables, through the schemes of Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) in all the States/UTs (except North Eastern States), whereas for North Eastern States, Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region (MOVCDNER) scheme is being implemented. Both the schemes stress on end-to-end support to farmers engaged in organic farming i.e. from production to post-harvest management training and capacity building. The main focus of the PKVY and MOVCDNER scheme is to promote natural resource based integrated and climate resilient sustainable farming systems that ensure maintenance and increase of soil fertility, natural resource conservation, on-farm nutrient recycling and minimize dependence of farmers on external inputs.

To promote marketing of organic produce, two types of organic certifications systems have been developed to ensure quality control of organic produce, as given below:

(i) Third Party Certification by Accredited Certification Agency under National Programme for Organic Production (NPOP) scheme under Ministry of Commerce and Industry for development of export market. Under NPOP certification scheme the production and handling of activities at all stages such as production, processing, trading and export requirements for organic products is covered.

(ii) Participatory Guarantee System (PGS-India) under Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare in which stakeholders (including farmers/ producers) are involved in decision making about the operation of the PGS-India certification itself by assessing, inspecting and verifying the production practices of each other. PGS- India certification is to meet the demand of domestic market.

Further, Food safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), a statutory body under the administration of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, has notified the Food Safety and Standards (Organic Foods) Regulations, 2017 regarding manufacture, pack, sell, offer for sale, market or otherwise distribute or import of Organic food. As per this regulation, all foods offered for sale as 'Organic Food' has to comply with the provisions of National Programme for Organic Production (NPOP) or Participatory Guarantee System for India (PGS-India).

Production Linked Incentive Scheme for Food Processing Industry (PLISFPI), implemented by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries, specify that the entire manufacturing process, including primary processing, of the food products eligible for coverage under the scheme, must occur in India, with the exception of additives, flavors, and edible oils. This approach aims to benefit farmers by procurement of domestically grown agricultural products in the manufacturing process thereby increasing their income. The Category II component of the scheme covers Innovative / Organic products including Free Range – Eggs, Poultry, Meat and Egg Products. 16 proposals of Organic products under Category II have been approved under the PLISFPI and an incentive of Rs. 4.24 crore has been disbursed.

(b) to (d): Food Safety and Standard Act 2006 and Rules and Regulations framed thereunder, lay down the quality and safety standards for various articles of food. The issues related to food safety, adulteration, labelling violations, Quality control, inspections and penalties for violation of Food Safety and Standards Act 2006, Rules and Regulations, are dealt by Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) under the administrative control of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. Implementation and enforcement of these standards lies with the FSSAI and State/UT Governments.

FSSAI has notified “Food Safety and Standards (Labelling and Display) Regulations, 2020” and this regulation mandates the mention of nutritional information on the labels with respect to salt, sugar and fat. It also mandates mandatory declarations of the name of sweetener with purity and weight percent of marker compound. Further, FSSAI has published the draft Food Safety and Standards (Labelling and Display) Amendment Regulations, 2025 that mandates the mention of nutritional information on the labels with respect to salt, sugar and fat in bold letters and relatively increased font size on labels.

FSSAI undertakes regular surveillance, monitoring, inspection and random sampling of food products through its Regional Offices and State Food Safety Departments throughout the year in urban and rural areas.

In case of non-conformity found, measures are taken as per FSS Act and Rules & Regulations made thereunder. Chapter IX (Offences and Penalties) Section 48-67 describe the penalties for the production, sale, storage etc. of food which is in contravention of the FSS Act, 2006, the rules and regulations thereunder. Punitive action includes penalties and criminal prosecution in cases of unsafe food.

As informed by Food Safety and Standards Authority of India, the details of samples analysed and action taken including penalties imposed and convictions made, during last two years, is given below:

Year	No. of samples Analysed	No. of samples found nonconforming	Non-Conforming samples			Civil Cases		Criminal Cases	
			Unsafe	Sub-Standard	Labelling defects/ Misleading/ Misc.	No. of convictions	Penalties Raised (Rs. In Crores)	No. of convictions	Penalties Raised (Rs. In Crores)
2022-23	177511	44626	6579	21917	16130	28464	33.23	1188	2.75
2023-24	170513	33808	6782	22603	4423	29586	74.12	1161	2.67
