

Supply of adulterated milk by private dairies

133. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are disturbing reports about rampant adulteration of milk supplied by private dairies across the country;

(b) whether Government in consultation with State Governments proposes to bring more deterrent laws to stop milk adulteration; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA): (a) As per the reports received from the state/UT Governments, there are occasional instances of supply of sub-standard/adulterated milk.

(b) and (c) The menace of food adulteration and particularly milk adulteration needs to be eliminated through a series of measures including effective implementation of the Food Safety and Standard Act by State Government, Strengthening of the food safety structures in the country and to the extent necessary, by appropriately amending the laws after consultation with all concerned. While Government will take all measures considered necessary for eliminating milk adulteration, even under the existing Food Safety and Standards Act, manufacturing, selling, distributing or importing unsafe food which includes milk, is punishable under Section 59. The penalties provided for in section 59 (iv) of this Act include imprisonment for not less than seven years which may extend to imprisonment for life and also fine of not less than ₹ 10 lakh.

Adulteration of food items

134. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether adulterated food items such as packaged water, milk, desi ghee, grinded spices etc. are being sold freely by unscrupulous traders without any fear;

(b) if so, the details of measures taken by Government to check and curb such rampant adulteration of food items in the country;

(c) the number of samples of food items lifted by Government during the last two years in Delhi and how many of them were found adulterated; and

(d) whether there is any proposal to educate consumers regarding how to check adulteration in food items at home?