

synthetic drug is sometimes also used to describe narcotics drugs. The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare does not have any information about increase in the manufacture of these drugs.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

Quality check of packaged drinking water

2583. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more than 70 per cent of packaged drinking water bottling units in the country are operating without proper licences such as FSSAI or BIS;

(b) if so, details thereof and Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) whether Government has made any survey over quality and quantity of mineral packaged drinking water and its safety, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE): (a) and (b) Reports of some Food Business Operators manufacturing/selling packaged drinking water without FSSAI/BIS certification mark have come to notice of the FSSAI. As per Regulation 2.3.14 (17) and (18) of the Food Safety and Standards (Prohibition and Restriction on Sales) Regulations, 2011, no person can manufacture, sell or exhibit for sale packaged drinking water and mineral water except under the Bureau of Indian Standards Certification Mark. As per information made available through Food Licensing and Registration System of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), 11044 licenses/registrations have been issued to Food Business Operators for different kinds of business such as manufacturing, distribution, etc. for the category of Packaged Drinking Water/Mineral Water/Bottled Water under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006. Regular surveillance, monitoring, inspection and random sampling of food products including packaged drinking water is undertaken by the officials of Food Safety Departments of the respective States/UTs to check compliance with standards laid down under the Food Safety and Standards (FSS) Act, 2006, and regulations thereunder. In cases, where the food samples are found to be non-conforming to prescribed standards, recourse is taken to penal provisions under Chapter IX of the FSS Act. Recently, the FSSAI has sent a communication to State/UT Governments to undertake regular enforcement activities on unauthorized manufacture and sale of packaged drinking water without FSSAI/Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) mark.

(c) No such survey has been conducted by the FSSAI.