

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

**RAJYA SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION No.549**

TO BE ANSWERED ON 23.07.2021

**WASTAGE OF FOOD IN THE COUNTRY**

549 DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA:  
SHRI K.C. RAMAMURTHY:  
(OIH)

**Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether it is a fact that Food Waste Index Report, 2021 of the UN Environment Programme indicates that about 50 kgs of food is wasted in India per person per year;
- (b) the efforts being made by Ministry to see that wastage comes to a minimum acceptable level so that more people can be fed, though India's food wastage is much less compared to other countries, including G-7 countries;
- (c) the efforts being made by Ministry to bring awareness campaigns in this regard; and
- (d) manner in which the Ministry is taking help from civil society to control the wastage of food?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE  
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION  
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)**

(a) : Yes Sir. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) has released a Report titled "Food Wastage Index Report 2021" in the month of March, 2021. As per this report, household food waste estimate in India is 50 Kg/ capita/year which is less than compared to many developed countries.

(b) to (d) : Food Safety and Standards Authority of India 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 organisations so that the donated food remains safe for human consumption.

Government has carried out publicity campaigns through 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 among young students and sensitize them on the subject.