

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:221
ANSWERED ON:06.03.2006
ADULTERATION IN EDIBLE OIL
Singh Shri Prabhunath

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

- (a) whether the number of samples of edible oil found adulterated have increased during the last three years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating the number of samples drawn and those found adulterated during the said period;
- (c) the steps taken to ensure that adequate number of oil samples are drawn for analysis to check adulteration;
- (d) the number of cases related to adulteration in edible oil pending in various courts alongwith the steps taken to expedite their disposal;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to make provision for punitive punishment to the adulterators ; and
- (f) if so, the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a), (b), (c), (d), (e) & (f): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF THE STARRED QUESTION NO. 221 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 06.03.2006 IN THE LOK SABHA.

(a), (b) & (c): As per the information provided by the Food (Health) Authorities of the States/U.Ts responsible for the implementation of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 in their respective States/U.Ts, the number of food samples of edible oils examined and found adulterated under the category of 'Edible Oils, Fats and Vanaspati' for the years 2001, 2002 & 2003 are as under:-

Year	No. of samples examined	No. of samples found adulterated
2001#	15918	1790
2002\$	12096	1255
2003@	15650	1578

Information for the years 2004 & 2005 is not readily available.

The Food (Health) Authorities of States/U.Ts have been advised from time to time to keep strict vigil on the quality of all food items including edible oils being sold in the markets and draw random food samples from all sources viz. Manufacturers/Wholesalers and Retailers.

(d), (e) & (f): The total number of court cases relating to all the food commodities including edible oils, pending in various courts are as under:-

Year	No. of Court cases pending
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2001#	53644
2002\$	62282
2003@	68735

Information for the years 2004 & 2005 is not readily available.

Does not include information from the State of Gujarat.

\$ Does not include information from the State of Gujarat, Bihar and Jharkhand.

@ Does not include information from the State of Tamil Nadu.

The punitive provisions are already existing in the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954.