

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3243  
ANSWERED ON:06.09.2007  
STATUTORY BODY TO INTEGRATE FOOD LAWS  
Barman Shri Ranen

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to set up a statutory body to integrate food laws and make them more stringent and prepare a new set of food laws;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the composition of the statutory body;
- (e) whether this new body will also be responsible for accrediting and certifying labs; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE FOR FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES ( SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAJ )

(a) to (f): The Government has notified Food Safety and Standard Act, 2006 to integrate the laws relating to food and to establish the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India for laying down science based standards for articles of food and to regulate their manufacture, storage, distribution, sale and import to ensure availability of safe and wholesome food for human consumption. One of the functions of Food Authority as per the provisions of the Act is to lay down procedure and guidelines for accreditation of laboratories and notifying the accredited laboratories. The composition of the Food Authority under the Act consists of a Chairperson and the following twenty- two members namely: -

- (i) seven Members, not below the rank of a Joint Secretary to the Government of India, to be appointed by the Central Government, to respectively represent the Ministries or Departments of the Central Government dealing with Agriculture, Commerce, Consumer Affairs, Food Processing, Health, Legislative Affairs, Small Scale Industries ,who shall be Members ex officio.
- (ii) two representatives from food industry of which one shall be from small scale industries;
- (iii) two representatives from consumer organizations;
- (iv) three eminent food technologists or scientists;
- (v) five members to represent the States and the Union territories;
- (vi) two persons to represent farmers' organizations;
- (vii) one person to represent retailers' organizations.