

## 2 fined for selling eatables without licence

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CHANDIGARH: A district court here made two persons stand till the rising of the court and imposed a fine of Rs 20,000 on each for selling eatables without a food licence.

They were held guilty and convicted under Sections 26 (2)(iii), 31(1), punishable under Section 63 of the Food Safety and Standards Act. The convicted persons have been identified as Aditya Soni, manager of M/S Tavern (Satya Paul and Co.) and Satya Paul, contractor of the company.

On May 31, 2017, a food safety officer during an inspection at the business premises of M/S Tavern (Satya Paul and Co.), SCO No. 95, Sector 17D, Chandigarh, had found manager Aditya Soni selling food articles like packaged drinking water, carbonated water, peanuts, prepared chicken, prepared paneer etc. for human consumption by way of public sale without a food license.

The food inspector challaned the accused for selling the aforesaid food articles for human consumption without having a food license under Section 26 (2) (iii) and 31(1) of the Food Safety & Standards Act 2006 punishable under Section 63 .

The defence counsel contended that no independent witness was associated at the time of the challaning the accused. Also, it was argued that neither any sample of food article was taken by the FSO nor raw material for preparation were seized and entire case has been falsely foisted upon the accused. It was also stated that no raid has ever taken place and the accused never sold any of the alleged food articles to any customer and that the he has been falsely implicated in the case.

Prosecution contended that since the accused were challaned for selling packaged drinking water, carbonated water, peanuts, prepared chicken, prepared paneer etc. without having a food licence, there was no requirement for taking sample of the food articles. After the arguments, the court held both the accused guilty and imposed a fine of Rs 20,000 on each.