

For immediate release

Press Release

Improved Food Safety Enforcement: Data for 2018-19 released

New Delhi, 25th November 2019: India's food regulator, today, released data on enforcement efforts by States/UTs in the country. Data released include samples analysed, non-conforming samples, cases launched, convictions and penalties by States/UTs during the year 2018-19 and also trends over the past 3 years.

According to the data released, during the year 2018-19, a total of 1,06,459 samples were analysed. While 3.7 % of these samples were found to be unsafe, 15.8% were found to be sub-standard and 9% samples had labelling defects. This is the first year the data has been compiled for unsafe, substandard and labelling defects separately. This would help support food safety authorities to take precise corrective and preventive action. While, there should be zero tolerance to unsafe food, issue of sub-standard and labelling defects require greater efforts on capacity building of food businesses and food standards as well as labelling requirements.

There has been a 7% increase in the number of samples analysed during 2018-19 as compared to 2017-18. 25% more samples were found non-conforming compared to the previous year. This shows that there has been better targeting of enforcement efforts by States/UTs in the country.

There has been a 36% increase in civil cases launched and a 67% increase in the number of cases where penalties were imposed. The amount of penalty imposed has increased by 23% during 2018-19 compared to the previous year. A total amount of Rs. 32.58 crore has been realised during 2018-19.

As far as criminal cases are concerned, there has been 86% increase in criminal cases launched. Since the conclusion of criminal cases takes time, a total of 5198 cases were concluded during 2017-18 that included a backlog of previous years. During the year there have been 701 convictions in criminal cases so far.

Ten States/UTs that have performed well include Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Bihar, Jammu & Kashmir, Delhi and Chandigarh.

Ten States that have performed poorly include Chattisgarh, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Assam, Jharkhand, Odisha, Rajasthan, West Bengal, Telengana, and Uttarakhand.

Many of the poorly performing States have not been able to put in place full-time officers for food safety and do not have proper food testing laboratories despite the food safety law coming into force over a decade ago.

Food safety issues extend beyond food adulteration as it is often believed by most people in India. Foodborne Disease Burden Epidemiology Reference Group of the World Health Organization has identified 31 foodborne hazards. In its first estimates of the incidence, mortality, and disease burden, this group has found that the global burden of food borne

diseases (FBD) is comparable to those of the major infectious diseases, HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis.

The most frequent causes of foodborne illness were diarrheal disease agents, particularly norovirus and *Campylobacter* spp. Diarrheal disease agents, especially non-typhoidal *Salmonella enterica*, were also responsible for the majority of deaths due to FBD. Other major causes of FBD deaths were *Salmonella Typhi*, *Taenia solium* and hepatitis A virus.

The global burden of FBD caused by the 31 hazards in 2010 was 33 million - Disability Adjusted Life Years (DALYs); children under five years old borne 40% of this burden, although they represented only 9% of the global population. These facts call for urgent action by all stakeholders to improve food safety throughout the food chain with more coordinated efforts and greater focus.

Expressing satisfaction over improved enforcement, Pawan Agarwal, CEO, FSSAI, said that *'More rigorous enforcement by States is essential to build public trust in food. He admitted that public trust has been eroded in recent times due to fake news creating widespread perception of large-scale adulteration in the country'*.

He added, *'FSSAI is working with States and UTs, particularly with weaker ones in this regard. For this, FSSAI is increasing the capacity of State food laboratories and enabling use of private food labs for testing food samples. Enforcement efforts have to better targeted and preceded by surveillance efforts to identify hotspots and problem areas'*.

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ENFORCEMENT REPORT: 2018-19

S. No.	Name of State/UT	No. of Samples Analysed	Non-Conforming Samples					No. of Cases Launched		No. of Convictions / Penalties			Target (2019-20)
			Unsafe	% age Unsafe	Sub Standard	Labelling defects/ Misleading/ others	Total	Criminal	Civil	Convictions	Penalties	Penalties Amount (Rs.)	
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	268	0	0.0	11	0	11	1	90	1	89	12,74,000	500
2	Andhra Pradesh	4715	149	3.2	244	299	692	104	456	29	344	1,06,91,300	5000
3	Arunachal Pradesh	291	1	0.3	3	7	11	1	7	0	6	21,000	400
4	Assam	515	46	8.9	48	17	111	7	14	0	5	77,000	1000
5	Bihar	4135	110	2.7	151	111	372	25	146	0	30	10,65,000	5500
6	Chandigarh	315	3	1.0	16	11	30	37	21	30	15	3,35,000	400
7	Chhattisgarh	988	16	1.6	141	51	208	23	27	17	8	9,95,000	2000
8	Dadara & Nagar Haveli	58	0	0.0	2	4	6	0	6	0	6	63,000	100
9	Daman & Diu	145	0	0.0	1	3	4	0	4	0	0	0	200
10	Delhi	2461	96	3.9	148	241	485	29	110	38	31	47,16,001	3000
11	Goa	1550	6	0.4	45	37	88	1	9	0	17	8,66,000	2500
12	Gujarat	9884	47	0.5	432	343	822	22	353	22	237	1,95,89,004	10000
13	Haryana	2929	95	3.2	459	183	737	47	488	5	242	51,16,860	3000
14	Himachal Pradesh	229	6	2.6	20	17	43	4	10	4	35	9,65,500	750
15	Jammu & Kashmir	3600	44	1.2	732	640	1416	10	698	1	466	57,18,800	5000

16	Jharkhand	499	44	8.8	101	63	208	10	71	0	22	4,85,000	2000
17	Karnataka	3945	100	2.5	120	236	456	71	249	0	146	9,50,800	5000
18	Kerala	4378	201	4.6	321	259	781	102	565	2	339	1,11,17,000	6000
20	Madhya Pradesh	7063	44	0.6	651	674	1369	114	1095	8	557	1,82,28,200	10000
21	Maharashtra	4742	278	5.9	633	125	1036	957	910	18	529	1,19,96,269	7000
22	Manipur	388	0	0.0	28	28	56	0	16	0	12	6,89,000	1000
23	Meghalaya	81	3	3.7	0	0	3	1	0	0	3	1,93,700	200
24	Mizoram	124	2	1.6	7	18	27	0	0	0	0	0	300
25	Nagaland	202	0	0.0	175	0	175	0	63	0	63	37,500	300
26	Odisha	327	22	6.7	44	25	91	38	123	0	3	2,20,000	1000
27	Puducherry	2037	0	0.0	39	0	39	0	0	0	0	0	2500
28	Punjab	11920	92	0.8	2015	1854	3961	45	1840	3	1762	1,57,03,200	10000
29	Rajasthan	5760	208	3.6	1272	667	2147		657	141	686	20,17,000	7000
30	Sikkim	182	0	0.0	17	0	17	0	0	0	0	0	300
31	Tamil Nadu	5730	728	12.7	813	1060	2601	666	1718	306	1485	5,01,11,950	7000
32	Telangana	1760	23	1.3	86	59	168	33	191	3	15	2,48,000	2000
33	Tripura	192	2	1.0	6	0	8	0	3	0	0	0	400
34	Uttar Pradesh	22583	1404	6.2	7907	2506	11817	451	8524	73	5526	15,89,81,003	22000
35	Uttarakhand	755	0	0.0	25	10	35	8	28	0	28	28,53,000	2500

36	West Bengal	1,708	130	7.6	157	97	384	6	58	0	20	4,53,000	1500
Total		106459	3900	3.7	16870	9645	30415	2813	18550	701	12727	Rs.32,57,78,087	127350

Source: States/UTs, # Details not available from Lakshadweep

ENFORCEMENT REPORT: THREE YEAR TREND (2016-17 to 2018-19)

Year	No. of Samples Analysed	No. of Samples found non-conforming	No. of Cases Launched		No. of Convictions / Penalties		
			Criminal	Civil	Convictions	Penalties	Penalties Amount (Rs.)
2016-17	78,340	18,325	1,727	11,353	1,605	4,757	17,01,93,266
2017-18	99,353	24,262	1,506	13,615	5,198	7,627	26,35,41,067
2018-19	1,06,459	30,415	2,813	18,550	701	12,734	32,57,78,087