GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1680 TO BE ANSWERED ON 9TH MARCH, 2018

AVAILABILITY OF GOOD QUALITY JAGGERY

1680. SHRI CHUNIBHAI KANJIBHAI GOHEL:

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

- (a) the role of the Ministry in ensuring availability of good quality jaggery (gud) in the country;
- (b) whether the Ministry is aware that there is no proper policy for jaggery production and the common man is forced to use chemically adulterated jaggery which is adversely impacting precious human health, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action taken/being taken by the Ministry, in coordination/consultation with the Ministries of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, and the State Governments to ensure availability of good quality jaggery in the country?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)

- (a) & (b): The Government has prescribed quality and standards of jaggery (gud) under the provisions of Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Regulations, 2011 and Bureau of Indian Standards. The guidelines for production and packaging of food products including jaggery are also prescribed under the provisions of following regulations notified under Food Safety and Standard Act, 2006 and administered by Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare:-
 - (i) Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Regulations, 2011.
 - (ii) Food Safety and Standards (Licensing and Registration of Food Businesses) Regulations, 2011.
 - (iii) Food Safety and Standards (Packaging and Labelling) Regulations, 2011.
 - (iv) Food Safety and Standards (Contaminants, Toxins and Residues) Regulations, 2011.
- (c): Besides FSSAI, the food safety departments of States/UTs, are also tasked to implement the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 and conduct regular monitoring and sampling of food products including jaggery. In case the products are found to be non-conforming to the standards prescribed, penal action is taken under the provisions of the Act.

