

**PARLIAMENT OF INDIA**  
**(RAJYA SABHA)**

**Press Release**

**COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS**

**Petition praying for prevention of adulteration of food items and to ensure consumption of safe food in the country**

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The Committee on Petitions of the Rajya Sabha, under the **Chairmanship of Shri Bhagat Singh Koshyari, MP, Rajya Sabha**, is considering a petition praying for prevention of adulteration of food items and to ensure consumption of safe food in the country. In the petition, the petitioner has touches upon the following aspects of food adulteration:-

- (i) Overuse of pesticides in farming;
  - (ii) Adulteration of food items at the stage of processing, packaging and transportation;
  - (iii) Adulteration in different forms in various food items like milk, sweets, spices, etc. by unscrupulous traders for sheer profit motive at the cost of innocent consumers; and
  - (iv) Connivance of adulteration industry with the law enforcers.
2. In this regard, the petitioner in his petition has prayed that:
- (i) State Governments to take action to curb adulteration rather than taking action against a person after the crime has been committed. The punishment should be harsh and deterrent and should be strictly enforced;
  - (ii) Adherence to realistic standards of food safety be ensured at different levels of production and distribution of food items;
  - (iii) Awareness generation among the consumers and empowerment of NGOs in deterrence/prevention of adulteration; and
  - (iv) Check over use of pesticides and encouraging organic farming.
3. The petition is available on the Rajya Sabha's website ([www.rajyasabha.nic.in](http://www.rajyasabha.nic.in)) under the link: *Committees* → *Standing Committees* → *Committee on Petitions* → *Petitions with the Committee*. A copy of petition may

also be obtained through a written request addressed to **Assistant Director, Committee Section (Petitions), Room No. 537, Rajya Sabha Secretariat, Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.**

4. The Committee has decided to undertake consultations with the wide cross-section of the society and invite written memoranda thereon. Those desirous of submitting memoranda to the Committee may send two copies (either in English or in Hindi) thereof to **Shri Rakesh Naithani, Joint Director, Rajya Sabha Secretariat, Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi – 110 001 (Tel: 011-23035433(O), 23794328 (Telefax) and E-mail: [rsc2pet@sansad.nic.in](mailto:rsc2pet@sansad.nic.in))** latest by 20<sup>th</sup> June, 2012.

5. Comments/suggestions, etc. submitted to the Committee would form part of its record and would be treated as confidential. Any violation in this regard may attract breach of privilege of the Committee.

6. Those who are willing to appear before the Committee besides submitting written comments/suggestions may indicate so. However, the Committee's decision in this regard shall be final.

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