To,

1. All States/U.Ts. Food (Health) Authorities/Food Safety Commissioners
2. All Port/Airport Health Officers/Authorised Officers
3. All Customs Collectors

Sub: Antibiotics in honey – reg.

Madam/Sir,

Your kind attention is invited to this Authority’s letter of even no. dated 24.09.2010 (Copy enclosed) and its subsequent reminder dated 06.12.2010 on the subject cited above, wherein you were requested to keep a strict vigil on the quality of honey and analyse all consignments imported into the country or being sold in your state as per quality parameters prescribed under PFA Rules, 1955 as well as for presence of antibiotics before the same is released for human consumption. In case of violation take necessary action under PFA Act, 1954. Action taken report is still awaited.

It is once again requested that action taken in the matter may please be sent to this Authority giving no. samples of honey analysed, found adulterated due to antibiotics/contaminants etc.

This may please be treated as urgent and required information be sent within fortnight from the date of issue of this letter.

Yours faithfully,

(Dr. Dhir Singh)
Assistant Director General (PFA)
E-mail: adgpfa@nic.in
Ph. No. 011 - 23237418
No. P.15025-31-2010-PFA-FSSAI

नान्सीम खाद्य शुस्का एवं मानक प्राधिकरण

Food Safety and Standards Authority of India
(Ministry of Health & Family Welfare)

1st Floor, East Tower, NBCC Place,
Bhisim Pitamah Marg, Pragati Vihar,
New Delhi-110003
Dated the 8th June, 2011

To

All Commissioners of Food Safety/ Food (Health) Authorities of the States/U.Ts.

Subject: Quality control of food articles specially during festivals regarding kuttu ka atta.

Madam/Sir,

Kindly refer to this Authority’s letter of even number dated April 6, 2011 regarding food poisoning cases due to consumption of adulterated Kuttu Atta in some parts of the country during the Navratri festival.

It is once again reiterate to kindly undertake a thorough review of the existing situation in your State/U.T. and direct your enforcement staff to be vigilant, identify possible elements who are indulging in this kind of malpractice, conduct regular raids in an organised and systematic way without harassment. It would be necessary to have a special drive launched by collecting random samples of Kuttu Atta, as in the rainy season develop of fungus growth, mycotoxin and other contaminants.

Action taken in the matter may please be intimated to this Authority urgently.

Yours faithfully,

(Dr. Dhir Singh)
Assistant Director General (PFA)
Dear Madam/Sir,

You may be aware that there have been reports in media/press from time to time regarding rampant adulteration in food articles particularly sale of green vegetables and fruits using hazardous chemicals like artificial colour, artificial sweeteners and other contaminants. Problem of food adulteration has been a matter receiving attention of the State Governments and to curb the menace of food adulteration the measures at the State level needs to be intensified.

The increase demand of foods during festival season also motivates unscrupulous dealers for adulteration in food has to meet the supply, which warrants a special intensified drive. Besides the routine measures for maintaining a vigil in adulteration of foods, there is a need to organized intensive checks at the manufacturing stage and wholesalers.

I, therefore, requested to kindly ensure that your enforcement staff is vigilant, identified possible elements who are indulging in adulteration of food items, conducting regular raids in an organized and systematic way. The systematic regular checks be made for various food articles especially of daily use like fruits & vegetables, edible oils, vanaspati, ghee, ice-cream, ice-candy, carbonated water, milk and milk products etc. and necessary legal action be taken in case of violation of P.F.A. Act, 1954.

Apart of above, there is a need to accelerate the consumer awareness programme by holding seminars, exhibitions and lectures at District levels. Such efforts will also be helpful in combating the evil of adulteration in foods.

I would be grateful if action taken in the matter may please be intimated to this Authority.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Dr. Dhir Singh)

To,

All Commissioners of Food Safety/Food (Health) Authorities of States/U.T.s.